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50<sup>th</sup>

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

FOUNDATION

OF

St. Mary's Parish

DORCHESTER, *Mass.*

1847—1897

PRINTED FOR THE PARISH  
1898

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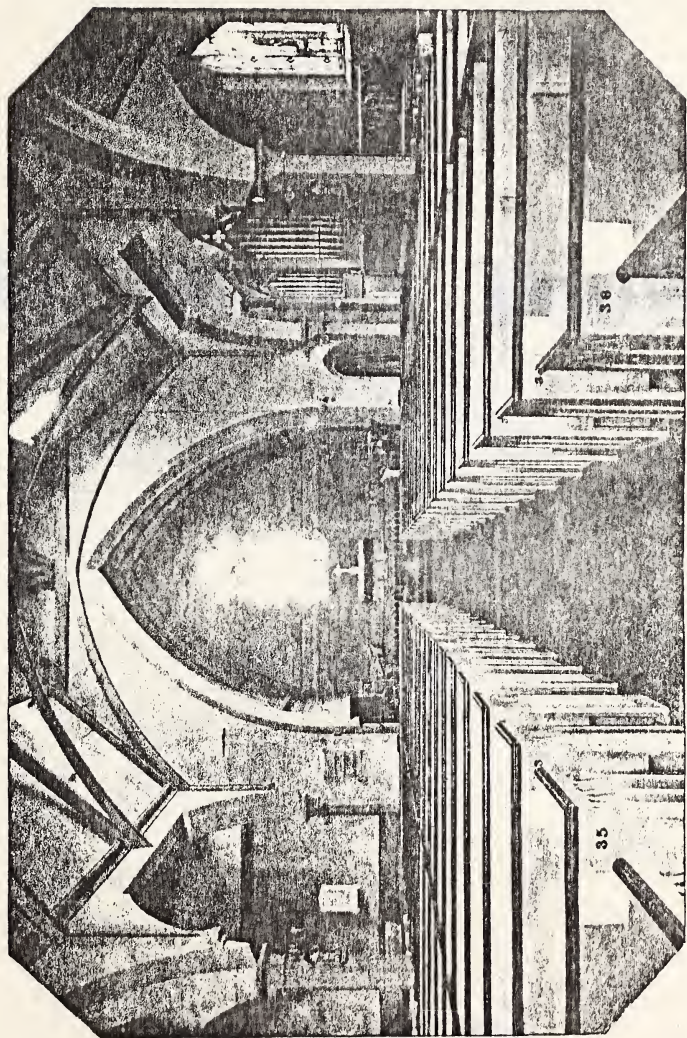
SEMI-CENTENNIAL  
1847—1897  
ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
DORCHESTER

Rec'd. May 28-1978









OLD ST. MARY'S IN 1870.



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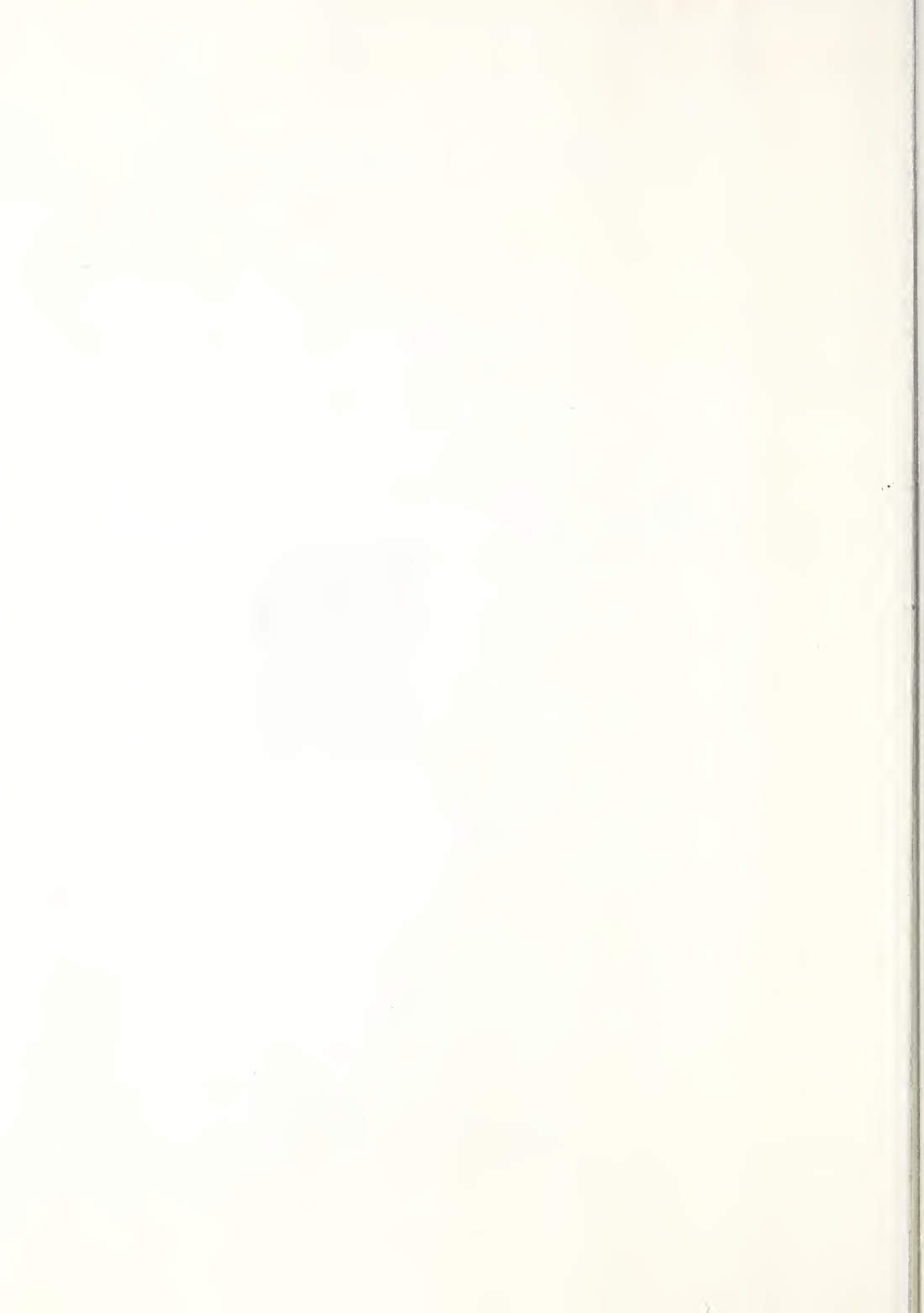
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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

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ST. MARY'S Church, Dorchester, completed the fiftieth year of her history on the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity, 1897. In a sermon preached early in the spring of 1897, the Rector of St. Mary's called attention to the fact of the approaching Semi-centenary of the Parish, and suggested that suitable preparations be made to celebrate the event. The suggestion met with immediate approval, and a Committee was chosen by the Vestry of St. Mary's to make all the necessary arrangements. Invitations were sent to present and past members of St. Mary's Church, inviting them to be present at a Service to be held at the church on Sunday, October 10, 1897, at 10.45 A.M. At this Service there were present, the Rev. Dr. George W. Porter, the first Rector of the Parish; the Rev. Edward L. Drown, the second Rector; the Rev. Lindall W. Saltonstall, the fifth Rector; and the Rev. Walter E. C. Smith, the present Rector. The Rev. Charles E. Barnes, of the Grove Hall Mission, was also present and assisted in the Service.

The Rev. Dr. Porter celebrated the Holy Communion, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Drown. The Commemoration Sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Saltonstall, which is printed in full on the following pages. It was a matter of much regret that the Rev. Mr. Silvester could not be with us; but the consecration of the Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia, of which he was Rector (taking place on the Monday following our celebration), made it impossible for him to be with us on this occasion.



The day itself was one of rare loveliness, and the Service throughout was most impressive. In the evening, the Rector of St. Mary's preached a sermon upon "The Progress of the Christian Church during the last Fifty Years." In addition to these services, it was felt to be fitting that there should be a social gathering at which addresses might be made by the Bishop, and the different Rectors and guests of the Parish, — somewhat reminiscential in character. By invitation of the Phillips Brooks Club of St. Mary's Church, this was made possible at a Dinner given at the Hotel Brunswick on Monday evening, October 11.

On the following pages will be found the Historical Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Saltonstall, together with the Annals of the Parish, taken largely from the Parish and Vestry Records, and a brief account of the Dinner (under the auspices of the Phillips Brooks Club of St. Mary's Church), on the following day.

For the careful selections of the items of interest from our Records, we are indebted to Mr. Martin L. Bradford, who (as one of the Committee on Publication), has given a great deal of time and labor to this work. That a record of the work being done at the present time may be preserved, the Year Book of St. Mary's, for 1897, forms an Appendix to this volume.

WALTER E. C. SMITH,

*For the Committee on Publication of Memorial Volume.*







THE REV. L. W. SALTONSTALL.







# HISTORICAL SERMON

BY

THE REV. LINDALL W. SALTONSTALL

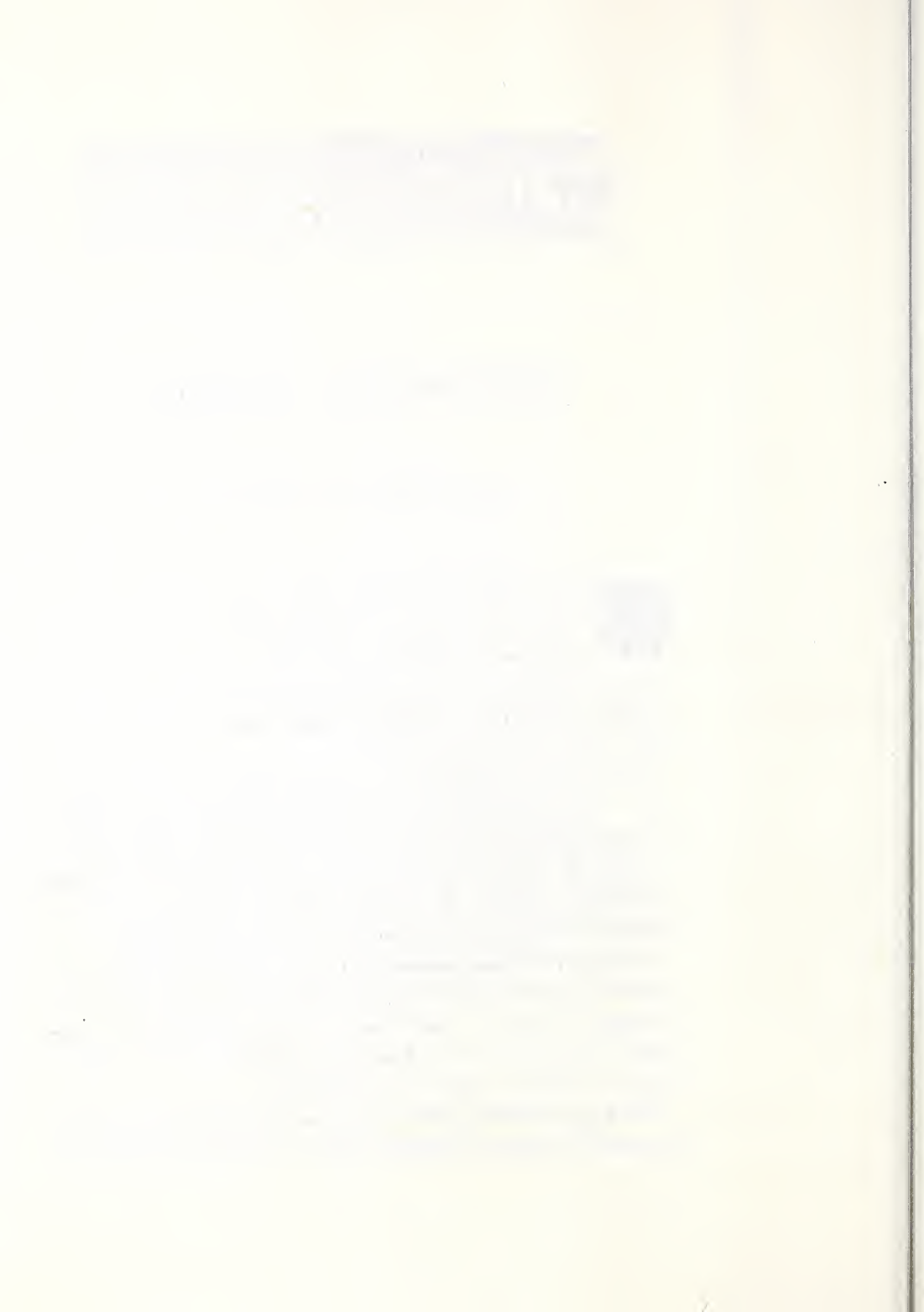


**I**N the history of institutions — as of persons — certain focal points are discoverable. On these all the really formative influences, active in the past, seem to centre, and from these they radiate, transfigured, purified, simplified, to effect in the future greater things than past conditions permitted.

These focal points are generally therefore points of departure. They may occur at some critical stage in the evolution of the institution or the development of the individual, as a result of trying experiences; or when changed external conditions demand the sudden exercise of long dormant powers to adapt the individual to a new environment.

Whatever be their immediate cause, these focal points are centres towards which the best influences, formerly effective, converge — nay, are summoned by the individual to safeguard his interests and direct his movements in a future near at hand and big with possibilities.

Such, my friends, seems to be the character of the occasion which calls us together to-day. This Semi-Centennial



celebration of the life and activity of this Parish is, it seems to me, a focal point in the history of St. Mary's—when in view of its present and future possibilities the Parish may well strive for a more distinct consciousness of itself, clearly recognize its own individuality, properly estimate its own worth, justly determine its privileges and its responsibilities, and recall to its remembrance, not the painful experiences of its Forty Years in the Wilderness, but rather those human virtues and Divine gifts which enabled it to overcome obstacles, and to persist in fulfilling its mission to this day.

If such memories come with the rehearsal of the simple annals of this Parish; if out of the past, its difficulties and its successes, there come voices which say to us "This is the way, walk ye in it"; if in the midst of present-day problems we feel the steadying, conservative influences, which, acting in the past, made secure the present prosperity, and if we then remember that these forces were incarnated every step of the way in men and women who wrought day by day, only in faith and love, as we of this present time,—then from this focal point as a centre and source will radiate influences—helpful, inspiring and formative; influences which shall assure to this Parish a future characterized, as is its past, by the wholesome activity of those virtues which restrain from the wrong and impel towards the right,—a consecrated spirit, a simple faith and an earnestness in doing good.

And just here it is well to remind ourselves that the institution whose Fiftieth Anniversary we to-day celebrate, is not secular, not to be confounded with a college, or bank, or other corporate agencies of social life, but that it rightfully claims a preëminence. It is a Church, and therefore special in its nature, character and office:—an institution



whose purposes are spiritual and religious, whose results therefore cannot always be seen or touched or counted, and whose agencies must not be secularized.

This makes the work of the annalist more difficult, yet none the less important. The fifty years of parochial life and work now commemorated, surely have other results than these goodly walls. As the Roman matron pointed to her children as her jewels, so may St. Mary's to-day.

There are those before me who are her children—spiritually nurtured under her fostering care, from their birth to this day. Baptized at her font, reared in homes permeated chiefly by her religious influences, taught the elements of the Christian faith and conduct in her Sunday School, confirmed in her sanctuary, regularly nourished at her altar—of some who now listen all this is true. They are living epistles of her faithful ministry. Nor they alone:—others there are, now absent, who not merely look back with loving thoughts to their early years in the old church, but also show their faith in and by their works, some giving all their time and efforts in other fields of the Church's work—others active and interested Churchmen and women, though in subordinate degrees and differing measures.

And so into this commemoration enter high and holy memories of blessed privileges, of spiritual experiences, and of fellowship in good works such as none but a Church can occasion. Until some of us saw, what we shall never forget—old St. Mary's in ruins—a confused mass of charred beams and twisted iron bars, blackened and distorted in her last agonies, and then realized that the one object of our common care, the ark of our common privileges, could thereafter be no longer related to our lives; until then we never knew how a mere building could knit itself into





our life-experience and become an inseparable part of our past.

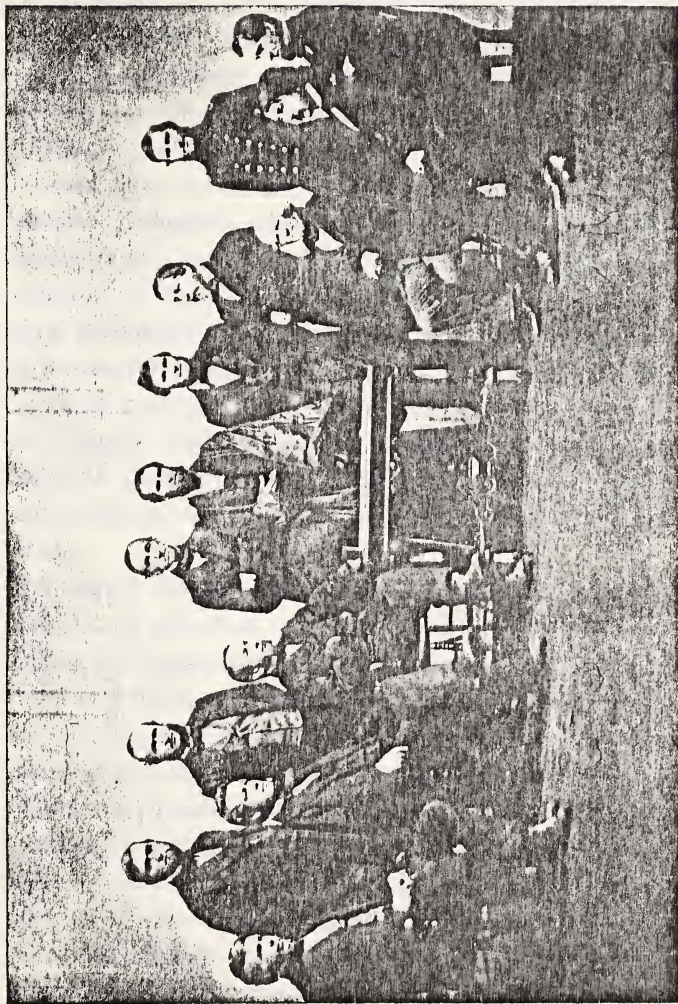
Yet, since then, we have come to realize that that building was but the "outward and visible sign" of the "inward and spiritual" life of the Parish itself, — a thing as real as it is subtle, and passing analysis ; as indescribable as it is manifestly effective in its proper sphere.

And what a mysterious thing the life of such an institution is ! How surely it possesses an individuality all its own, peculiar, and effecting peculiar results ! A life in the world, yet not of the world ; ministering to each generation, yet identifying itself with none ; seemingly inseparable from its outward form and ritual, yet really independent of both.

This Parish life is thus seen to be continuous and independent, while always incarnated in a slowly changing membership. It has an unearthly property by which it persists "through changes and chances of mortal life," that wreck the frail bodies of even its most devoted agents. Now, it is this mysterious and subtle thing — the real life of the Parish — that we must keep ever in mind while recalling the incidents affecting its bodily form.

It is now a matter of but little moment that mortgages were cheerfully paid off by arduous efforts, that additional land was bought — that memorial windows were given — that vines were planted, the grounds carefully sodded, and the church itself decorated anew at intervals. These things, that meant so much then, may now be passed with a mere mention. Rather, it is the loyal, loving, gracious spirit of the life finding its outward manifestation in these acts of devotion ; it is this upon which our attention must be fixed, for it is this alone which has persisted, imperishable, and is the richest possession of St. Mary's to-day !





The Wardens and Vestry, St. Mary's, 1861.

Capt. Chas. Emery.	Mr. Daniel Sharp.	Mr. N. W. Coffin.	John P. Clapp.	Martin L. Bradford.	Dr. C. Ellery Stedman.
Mr. John P. Townsend.	Mr. John T. Clark.	Rev. Wm. H. Mills.	Mr. John T. Clark.	Mr. D. B. Stedman.	Mr. Chas. Stimpson.
					Mr. Wm. W. Page.



We are to trace this life from its birth, fifty years ago, on through its varied experiences,—its rapid growth in numbers and usefulness ; its expansion and contraction ; its days of strength, when it surpassed its own peculiar limits and ministered to others in neighboring districts, and also its days of weakness, when only the tender care of wise heads, loving hearts and ready hands nursed its struggling spirit through perilous crises.

And as we recall these facts, we would not, and indeed we cannot, dissociate them in our grateful memories from our loving appreciation of those faithful workers who thus, according to their ability, loyally served their Parish as occasion demanded. Some, thank God, still remain—earnest, loyal, and interested, now as then—to carry on the good work and transmit the same fine spirit of loyalty and self-sacrifice to those who come after ; some (and here, too, let us give thanks), having finished their course in faith, have entered on the rest that remaineth for the people of God.

I cannot name them all—these uncalendared saints. Indeed, they need no mention ; for as we recall the past in which we lived and labored together, not names merely, but faces and forms, and faint echoes of loving voices, come back to us. We are inwardly assured that “living saints and dead but one communion” make, and that as we kneel once again before the Parish altar we are not alone. “Young men and maidens, old men and children,” father, mother, brother and sister, husband, wife and friend,—all who in any measure partook of the Parish life, and in return gave of theirs,—these all, though absent, are yet present, “knit together with us in this one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Christ our Lord.”







With these thoughts in mind, let us turn now to a brief rehearsal of those early efforts and fair attainments which made possible the greater glory of this later temple.

The religious problem of the New England town (which was so forcibly described in a recent issue of a popular review) is not a perplexing question of a *late* date. Traces of its existence may be found in the records of the times long "before the war." And the New England Town of Dorchester was no exception. When we read of the widely separated boundaries of the old town, and infer that, compared with its present, it must have been sparsely settled; when we remember that those were the days of the leisurely stage-coach and corner-store, that life was simple and society more primitive in its manners and customs than at present, we cannot help admiring the loyalty and the courage of the fifty persons who assembled on Sunday, July 16, 1843, in the Town Hall, and listened to "an impressive sermon and service" conducted by the Rev. John P. Robinson, the Rector of Christ Church, Quincy.

What had preceded this first "sermon and service" the reader of the early chronicles is left to imagine. What abundant discontent with the doctrines and worship then duly set forth in no less than seven different churches and societies — what earnest longings for the familiar words, the dignified and reverent forms of worship prescribed in the Prayer Book — what going from house to house in friendly consultation as to the possibilities of securing and supporting the services of our Church if once duly established; what patient waiting and wistful looking in every direction for help to realize their desires — of all this the simple record says nothing.

Some here present can remember these things, and most of us can imagine them. If so, we can also easily enter into



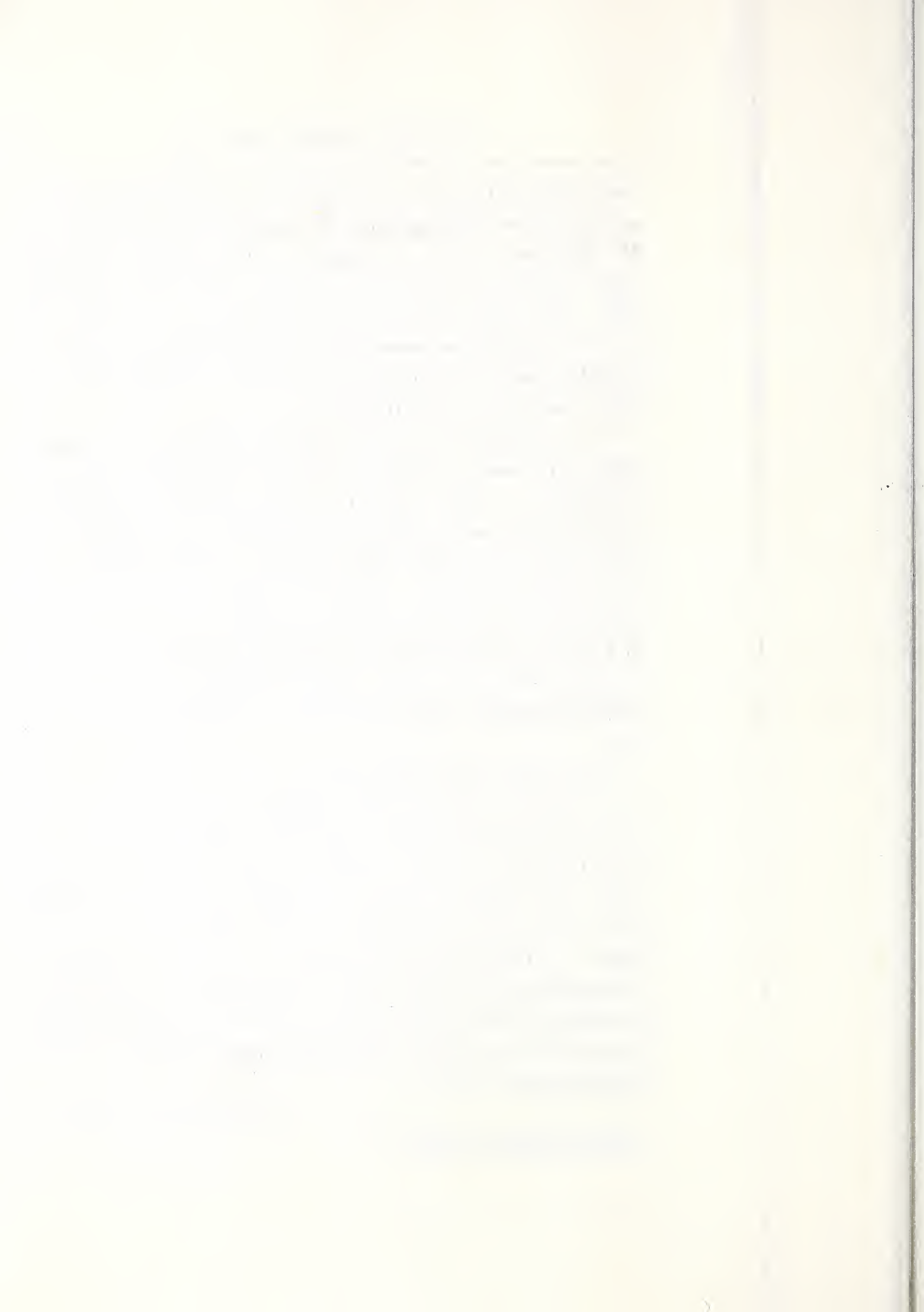
the hopeful enthusiasm and satisfaction of that little band of several active Episcopalians who extended the invitation to Mr. Robinson to form an Episcopal Church, in response to which the first "sermon and service" was held in the Town Hall. The text of that sermon was the words of St. John iii. 16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life."

As to the Service proper, this was the first occasion on which the Book of Common Prayer was publicly used in Dorchester. "The interest" then awakened "proved so general that it was decided to hold Evening Prayer at the Town Hall every two weeks." This was "the starting-point of St. Mary's Church." These occasional services were continued with regularity during the remainder of the year, and to January 28 following, and afterwards at longer intervals to Easter Sunday, April 7, 1844—the Rev. Mr. Robinson officiating eleven times and the Rev. Darius R. Brewer, once.

"From that date" (Easter-Day, 1844) "until June, 1847, it is supposed that no Church Services were held." At any rate, no records have been preserved. Only one item is at hand referring to what occurred in the interim. Among some loose papers relating to Parish affairs, the following, written on a leaf torn from a pocket blank-book, has been found:—"Having learned that the erection of a church is contemplated, on a lot of land in Roxbury, near Dorchester, presented by Mr. Ralph Haskins, I hereby signify my entire approval of the object, and hope that it will be carried vigorously into effect.

"MANTON EASTBURN.

"BOSTON, May 23, 1846."



The Rev. Dr. David G. Haskins, recently deceased, of Cambridge, told me in 1884, that the donation of land referred to by Bishop Eastburn was made in answer to his (Dr. Haskins's) request, and that only sickness prevented his acting promptly and securing the title in due form. While he was ill the Rev. George W. Porter called upon him and offered to carry on the work of Church extension in Dorchester in his stead. To this Dr. Haskins consented.

As a result of Rev. Mr. Porter's activities a meeting of the friends of the Church was held in Lyceum Hall, June 9, 1847, to consider the subject of organizing a Parish.

It is evident from this that the seed sown in those occasional Services in 1843-44 had fallen on good ground. Occasional they were, perforce, for the Rector of Christ Church, Quincy, had his own more immediate parochial duties to discharge, and no train or trolley service then connected the two towns. His missionary work in Dorchester seems to have been a "labor of love"—sincere, devoted, self-sacrificing; and here we should not fail to observe, that *such* "love's labor was not lost."

I am not informed as to the term of Mr. Robinson's service in Quincy, or when he died. But this is certain: the development and prosperity of St. Mary's Parish, as step by step its strength was manifested, must have given him a soul-pleasure, rich, sufficient and abiding, which more than compensated him for his extra duties in behalf of the Church in Dorchester. It is evident, also, that during what I may call the three silent years—from June, 1844, to June, 1847, of which term we have no record—the life of the Parish, soon to be born and duly organized, was feeble and fluctuating, as is inevitable in the case of a people without a country—a Parish without a Church. For we read that,

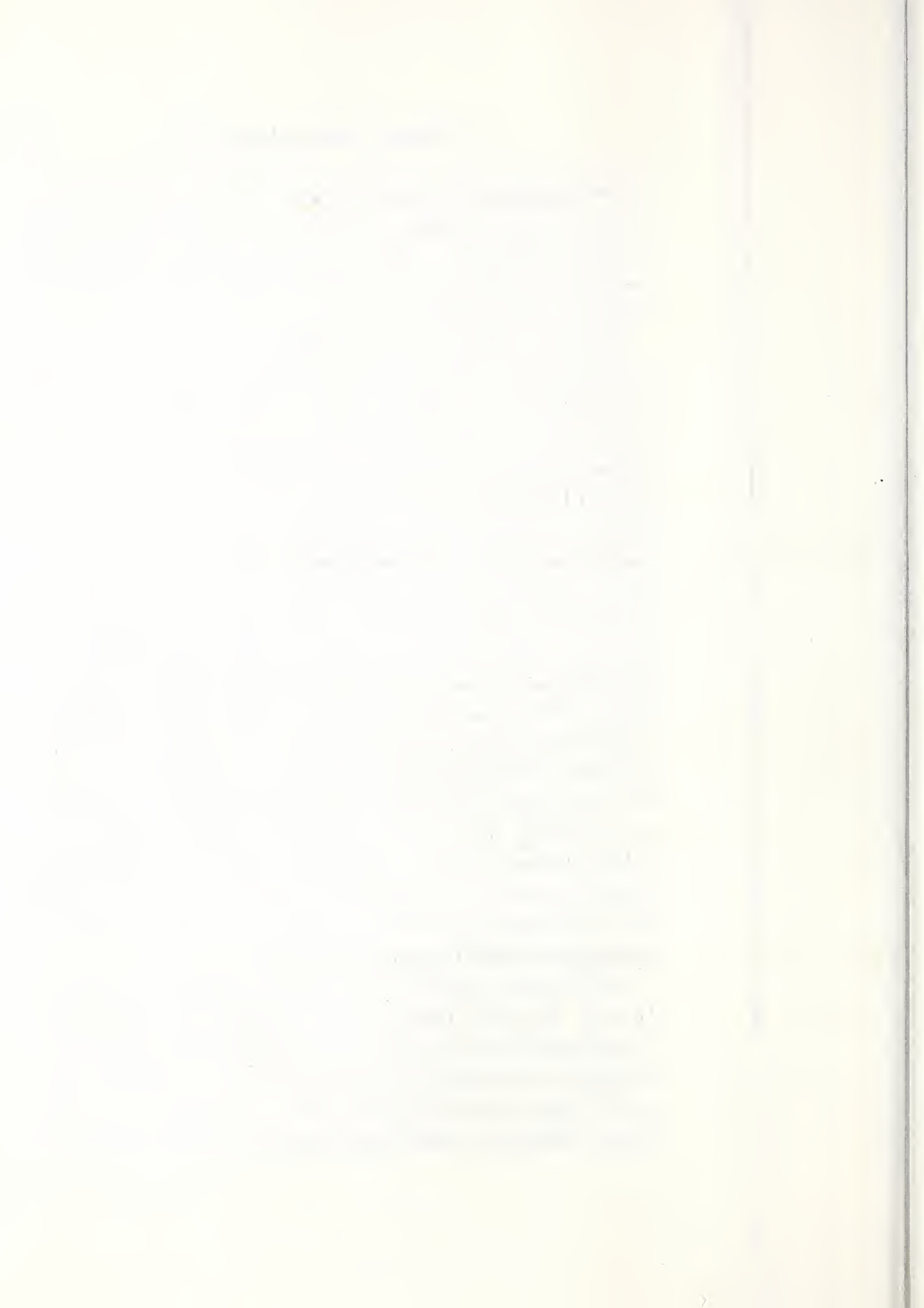




notwithstanding the general interest awakened by the occasional services in 1843-44, "it was thought inexpedient to organize a Parish." This inexpediency, however, gradually vanished as evidences of interested sympathy came from the Clergy and the Laity of Boston.

Already, in May, 1846, the Bishop (Eastburn) had heard and approved of the erection of a church; and that simple fact warrants the inference that in those silent years influences were at work seizing every opportunity, using every agency, which might further the development of Churchmanship in Dorchester. So effective was this preparatory work that a "primary subscription list," circulated in order to secure the pledges of contributions for the erection of a church edifice, bears the names of persons whose joint subscriptions amounted to \$1,150. This "list" bears date June 7, 1847. Two days later—June 9, 1847—the question of organization was discussed by friends assembled in Lyceum Hall. Of the course of the debate,—who spoke for, and who against the project; what was the nature of the arguments presented; what hopes and what fears were expressed,—we have no record. But it is evident that the spirit of caution, and possibly of wisdom, presided in this council of our elders; for we read that, although "several wealthy Episcopalians [had] offered to donate land" on which a church should be erected, the meeting was adjourned to August 11, having accomplished little that called for record.

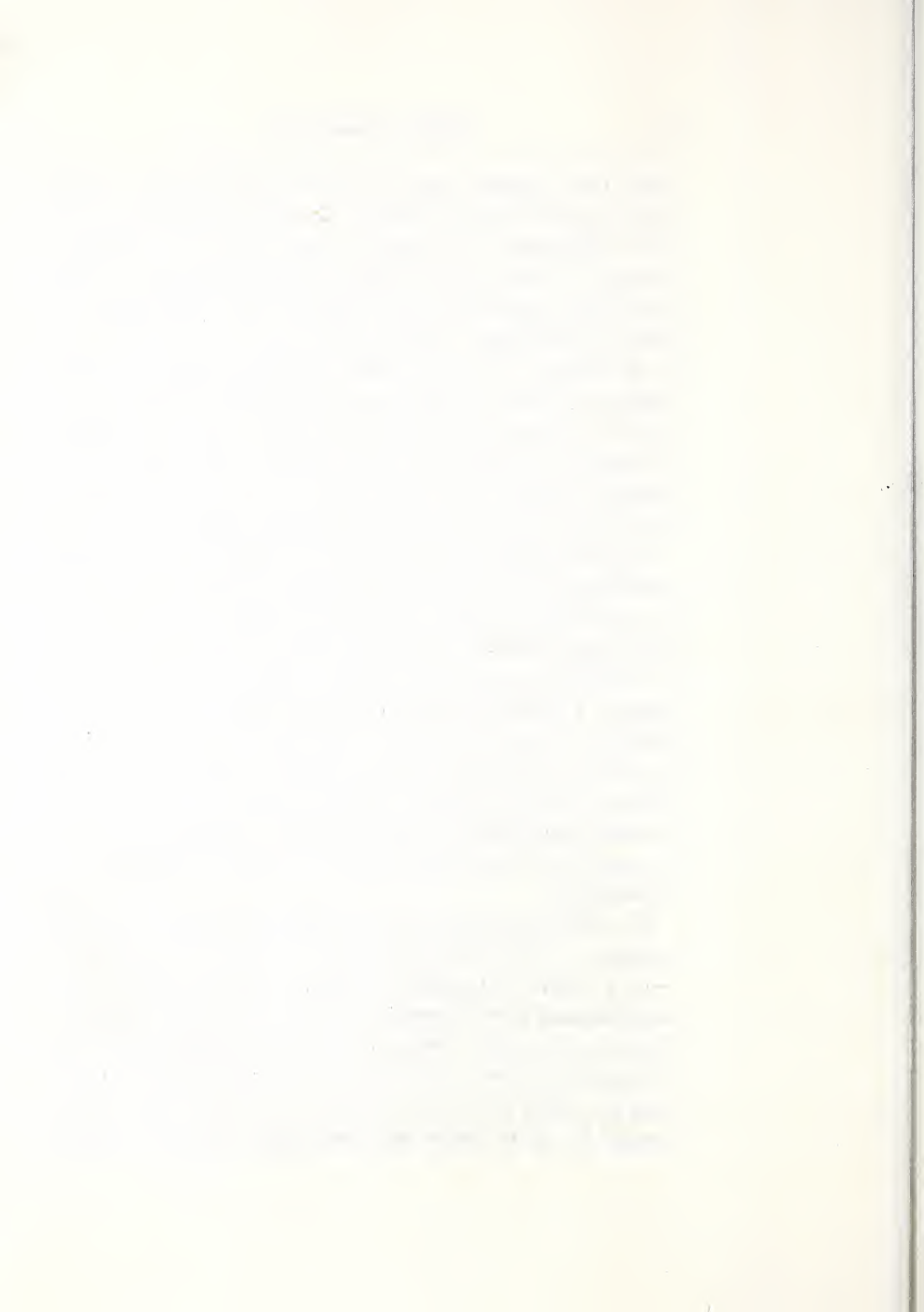
On that date a petition for a warrant was addressed to the Hon. S. P. Loud, Justice of the Peace, representing that "the signers have associated themselves for the support and enjoyment of public worship, under the name of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester." The petitioners asked that a warrant be issued directing one of their number to



notify 'the qualified voters of said Parish to meet at such time and place as may be therein specified for the purpose of legal organization, according to Chap. 20, of the Revised Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.' This petition was signed by William Withington, Joseph Hooper, Robert Richardson, Thomas Hill, Edward Holden, and A. W. Hayter. In answer, Mr. Richardson was the signer selected to issue the notice, and he called a meeting to be held in Lyceum Hall, October 23, 1847. At that meeting a compact, or constitution and by-laws, was adopted; two Wardens (Hooper and Withington) were chosen, and the Rev. George W. Porter unanimously elected Rector.

Thus the eighth religious society or association for Divine worship and charitable work came into existence in Dorchester, was legally established, duly constituted as to its inner being, and of necessity, entered forthwith upon the struggle for existence and useful activity common to all created things. The religious problem in this New England town, already, no doubt, somewhat confusing and troublesome to the various officers and others pledged to provide ways and means of support, became in time still more perplexing; and it is quite probable that many thought — then as now — that the existence of the new Parish was wholly uncalled for and unjustifiable.

To vindicate the action of our forefathers, and to show the existence "in the nature of things" — then as now present, — of a certain compulsion tending sooner or later to the establishment of an Episcopal Church here, would require a digression into the realms of theology, metaphysics, and ecclesiastical history, and a sketch of social conditions of that time, for which this is not a proper occasion or place. It is enough for us to notice that the faithful efforts of earnest

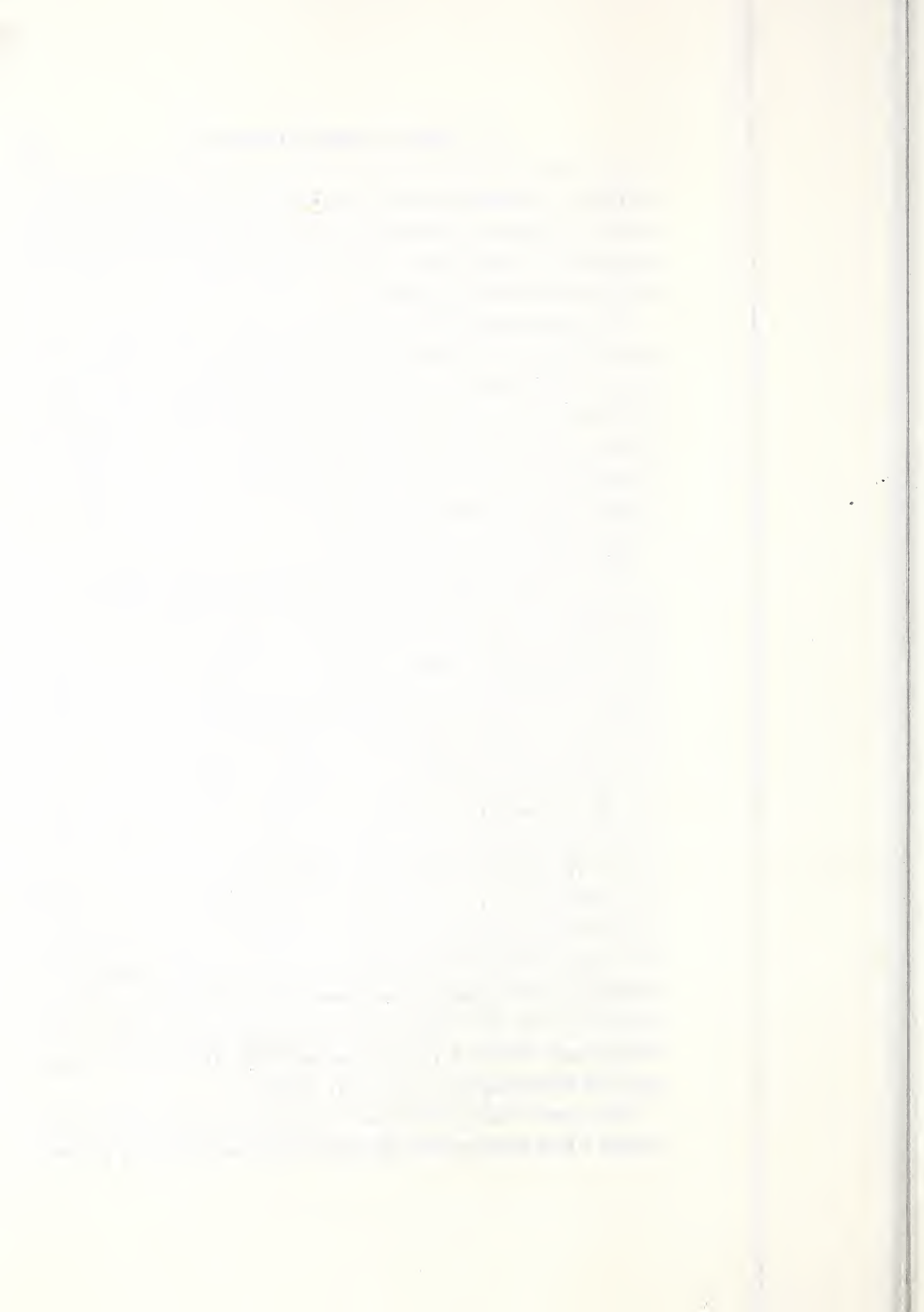


workers, — clerical and lay — in spite of the doubts and difficulties, “the foes without and fears within,” which inevitably appear in a term of four years of uncertainty, now began to yield results full of promise.

The seed-sowing had not been in vain. The rootlets had been all the while striking downwards, aided, in the main, by those subtle influences which open human hearts and establish firm convictions in human minds, influences which intermingle with the ordinary experiences of common life, yet though in the world are not of the world: — His influences, “unto whom all hearts are open,” and who ever gives “a right judgment in all things.”

With these thoughts in mind we can readily imagine with what gratitude, enthusiasm, and hope those first members of St. Mary's, Dorchester, prepared for, and enjoyed — about one month later — the *first Service* of this Parish, held in Lyceum Hall, Sept. 26, 1847, the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity. On this occasion the Order for Morning Prayer was first read and the surplice was first used in Dorchester; or, as the chronicler expresses it: “the Rev. Dr. Porter appeared in full canonicals.” Owing to unfavorable weather, only twenty-two persons were present at the morning and thirty-two at the afternoon service. The average attendance upon both Morning and Evening Service during the first two months was about seventy-three. The Sacrament of Baptism was first administered October 10, the Sunday School was organized November 22, and the Holy Communion first administered on the first Sunday in December, 1847. The Parish was admitted into union with the Diocesan Convention the following year, June 14, 1848.

Four and a half years had now passed since that memorable “first sermon and service” impressed the fifty persons





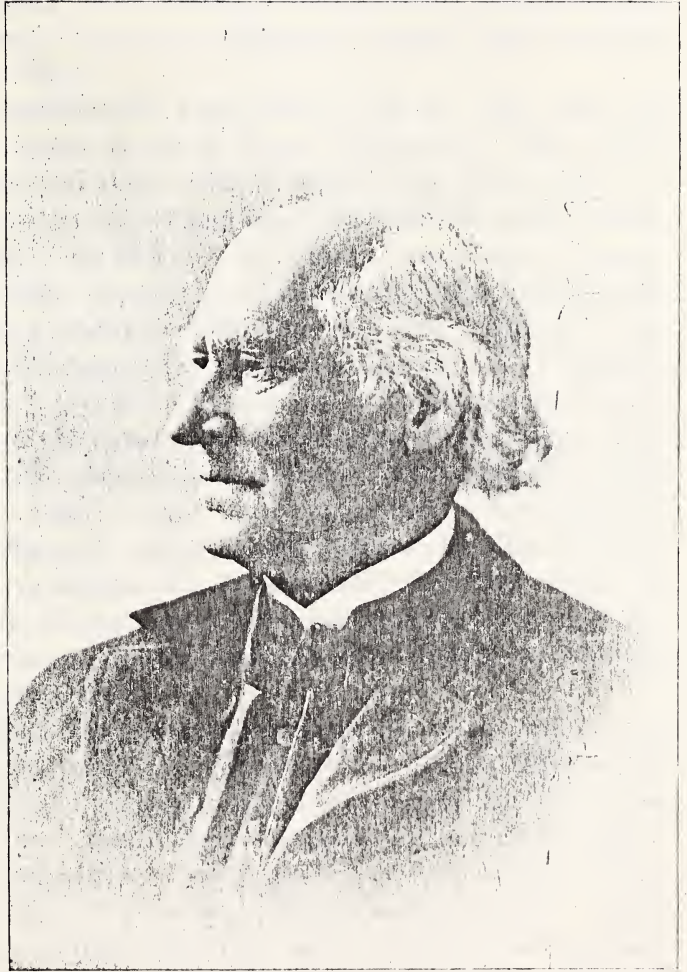
assembled in the Town Hall, — Sunday, July 16, 1843 ; and the Parish duly established, which was then no doubt dreamt of by some, was now, in December, 1848, an accomplished fact, — a religious, civil, and social institution, having its recognized existence, sphere of action, and influence, and regularly related to the Diocese and its head the Bishop.

Having thus a name and position in the world, it naturally needed and desired a local habitation. Among several offers of sites for a church edifice, one had been received from Mrs. Catherine Dodge. This proposed to give to the Parish one-half acre of land on Bowdoin Street opposite Olney Street, to be used for Church purposes ; these failing, her gift was to revert to her estate. This offer was accepted Nov. 2, 1848. Subscription books were once again opened ; the Church people of Boston and vicinity responded liberally, and the necessary funds were soon obtained. Among those donating to the building fund were the Rev. Dr. Codman, Mr. John Wyman Trull, and Miss Abby M. Loring. The two latter continued for some time to take a lively interest in the growth and welfare of the Parish.

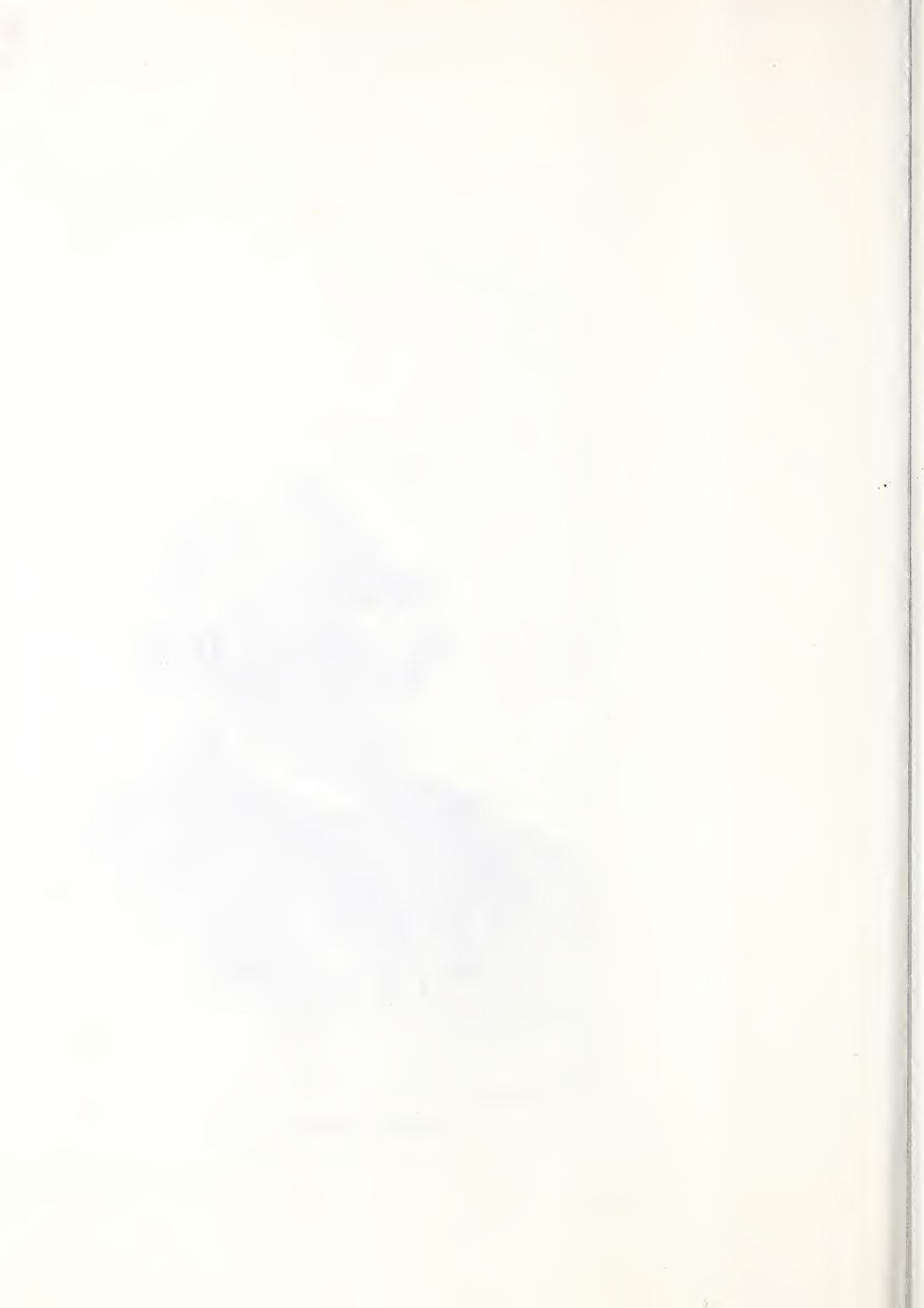
The church, a simple wooden structure, was planned by Mr. Arthur Gilman, an architect of Boston. The cornerstone was laid April 5, 1849, by Bishop Eastburn. The church cost about \$5,000, or exactly, \$4,932.67. The organ and the chancel furniture were added later. The consecration took place September 20, and was attended by the Bishop and twenty-one Clergymen. The Rev. Mr. Porter was instituted Rector of the Parish, April 7, 1850.

Two and one-half years later, Nov. 1, 1852, he resigned the rectorship. With the organization and early history of St. Mary's, he writes me, "some of the pleasantest memories of my official life are connected." His term of service extended





THE REV. GEORGE W. PORTER.



through five years and two months. He preached his last sermon as Rector, November 1, 1852, and a committee was appointed to provide for the services until his successor should take charge. That successor was found six months later in the person of the Rev. Edward L. Drown, who was called May 25, 1853.

He preached his first sermon, June 26. His text was Elihu's words in Job 36: 2, 3: "Suffer me a little, and I will shew thee that I have yet to speak on God's behalf. I will fetch my knowledge from afar, and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker." Mr. Drown took charge as Rector July 1, 1853. During his administration, about three years later, the church was enlarged at a cost of \$2,876.35. One who is still a member of the Parish remembers his "eloquent sermons." Attentive listeners in increasing numbers bore witness to the power of St. Mary's pulpit in those days. Mr. Drown held office about seven years. His resignation, dated July 12, 1860, to take effect September 1, was accepted. Before September came, the Rev. William H. Mills had been elected to succeed Mr. Drown. Mr. Mills took charge of St. Mary's, September 2, 1860, but did not enter upon his full duties as Rector until the first Sunday in Advent, November 4, 1860.

Although the gloomy forebodings, the unrest and anxiety that accompanied our Civil War were already filling every New England town with disquieting rumors, the life of this Parish then entered upon the period of its greatest expansion. One writes: "In the business activity during the war, and for several years after it, the Parish prospered. From all parts of the town, from many beautiful and spacious homes, families drove in their carriages to the little church." So noticeable was this that often in conversation it was





referred to as "the Church of the Spans." "Money was plenty, easily earned and readily spent. In working for the soldiers, women became accustomed to working together, and the Ladies' Sewing Society flourished then as it has never done since. At frequent intervals the ladies of the Parish, meeting to sew in the afternoon, remained to supper, the gentlemen being invited to meet them, and several hours were passed in social intercourse. Sometimes one hundred members of the Parish met, and to many these opportunities of making the acquaintance of their fellow-worshippers were pleasant and profitable."

The church increased in numbers until the building was crowded. In 1862 a small floating debt of \$600, and in 1863 a mortgage debt for the first enlargement of the church (in 1856 amounting to \$2,000), were paid. During this year the lot west of the church, costing \$900, was bought and paid for. The Parish at this time (1863) was entirely free from debt. It so continued, and with increasing income, until 1866, when, all the pews having been rented, the church was again enlarged. Transepts and a large chancel, 25 x 20 feet, were built on; a small tower at the north-west corner and a porch on the south side were added, and a Sunday School-room and a Vestry-room were finished in the basement. The whole cost of the enlargement was about \$20,000. The chancel was handsomely furnished, the expense being defrayed by a large gift of money from Mrs. Safford, a parishioner, who also gave the chancel window. Two other windows were given,—one by Mrs. C. E. Stedman, the other by the Sunday School under the leadership of Miss Messinger.

A lot of land on the south side of the church was bought about this time, costing \$400. The expense of the enlargement, \$20,000, was met by Parish contributions, amounting



to \$13,000. The remaining \$7,000 was provided by mortgaging the church property. This last measure was very greatly regretted by the Rector, who used his best efforts to remove it as soon as possible, refusing, on account of this debt, several calls to other Parishes. In 1873, seven years later, this mortgage debt had been reduced to \$4,000. By great effort the Rector had obtained subscriptions for this whole amount, and he thought the Parish would be again, and soon, free from debt. But before he had begun to collect the subscriptions, the "great Boston fire" occurred, causing the financial ruin of many. Some of the principal supporters of the Parish died; others moved away. This was the turning point in St. Mary's prosperity, and in succeeding years the mortgage debt was a constant source of trouble.

At this time the ninety-four communicants who were enrolled in 1860, at the beginning of Mr. Mills's ministry, had increased to two hundred and fifty-four, and the congregation in proportion. St. Mary's was then regarded as one of the strongest and most prosperous Parishes in the Diocese outside of Boston. The offerings taken in the church during Mr. Mills's rectorship, exclusive of pew-rents and donations of all kinds, amounted to \$52,130.38; or about \$4,000 annually for a term of thirteen years. These figures of income and membership give one some idea of the condition of the Parish when in its strength. This condition was the result of God's blessing on the faithful labors of an earnest Parish Priest and a loyal and willing people. One who knows, describes Mr. Mills's teachings as "direct, earnest and uncompromising; his work, faithful and well organized; his influence, directed towards strict Churchmanship and settled beliefs." As might naturally be expected, "the spiritual



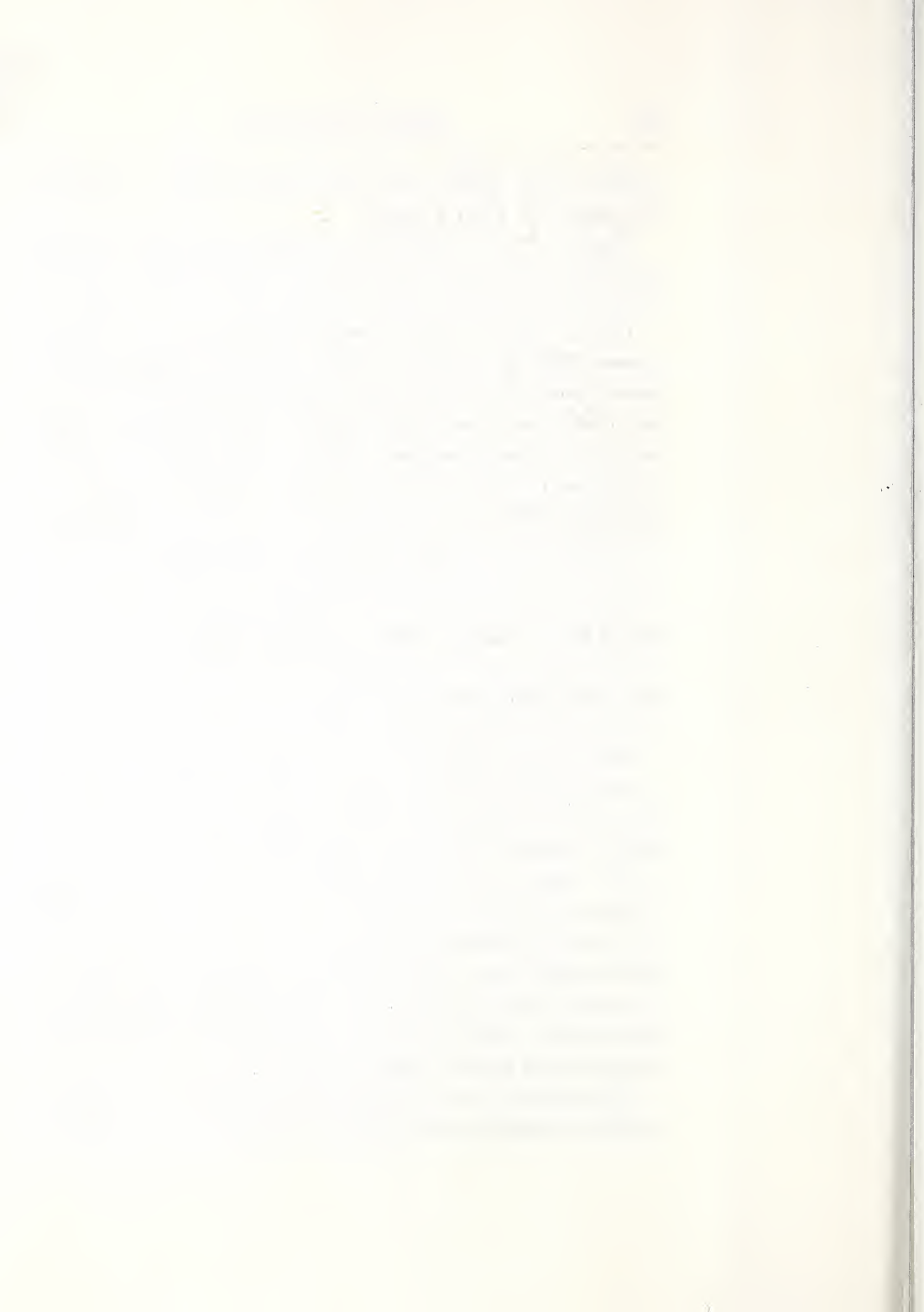
results of Mr. Mills's work were long apparent." This was the day of St. Mary's power.

Cheered by the abundant evidences of God's blessing attending his parochial labors, the faithful Rector sought to extend the Church's influence beyond his own borders.

In the fall of 1867 he began mission work at Milton Lower Mills by sending to that village, to make inquiries, Miss Hannah Austin, to whom a great debt of thanks is due for faithful services long rendered. She found, to begin with, two Church families. Services were, however, at once commenced, and were held every Sunday evening in the American Hall, and thenceforth were never interrupted. On March 14, 1869, by the Rector's appointment, the Rev. J. B. Clark, of Needham, assumed and continued in charge of them until January, 1871. Then, for one year and a half, the Rev. Dr. George Waters conducted them. At the end of that term the Rector again took personal responsibility for their continuance, and, with occasional Lay help, ministered at this Mission until he left Dorchester in 1874.

Meantime, in 1870, a lot was bought for \$2,000. In 1871, a neat and substantial church was erected costing somewhat more than \$5,500, which amount was raised mostly by Mr. Mills's personal efforts, the people of St. Mary's giving liberally. March 23, 1874, the Mission was duly organized and became All Saints' Parish. It was then free from debt. After a rectorship of thirteen years, seven and one-half months, Mr. Mills resigned his charge on Easter Day, April 5, 1874, and accepted a call to Erie, Pa. His last years were spent as Rector of St. Paul's Parish in Yonkers, N. Y., where he died, respected and beloved, early in 1893.

I have dwelt thus at length upon this period of St. Mary's greatest prosperity and usefulness because, only so, by the

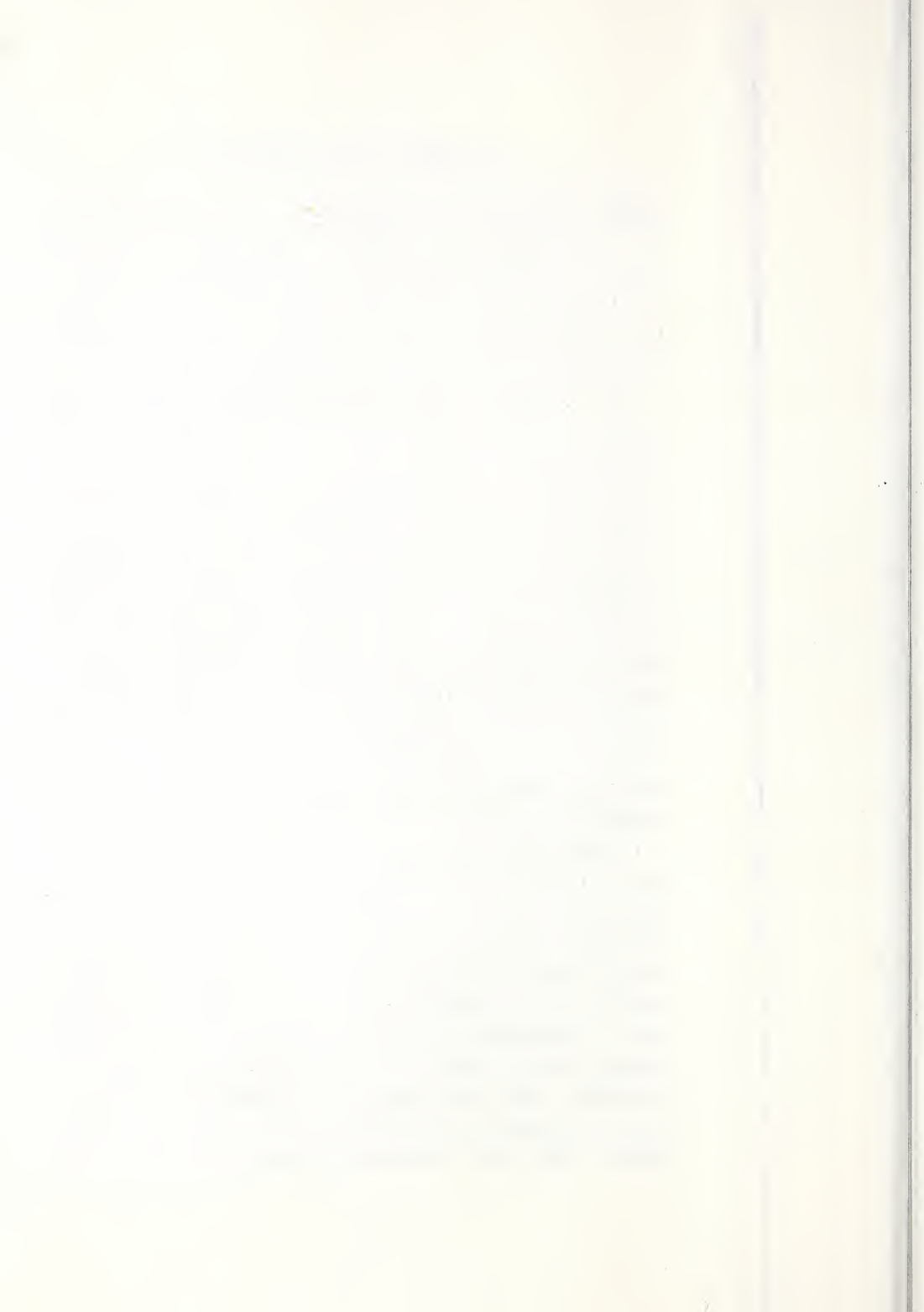




simple statement of incontrovertible facts, can be explained the love, loyalty and energy of those who in succeeding years so faithfully persevered in guarding the interests of this Parish. With Mr. Mills's departure, the causes effecting a decline in vigor, and demanding a careful economy in expenditures, began to operate with greater stress.

"The unexpected social results of the annexation of Dorchester to Boston — the centralization of all interests in the city proper, the removal of many wealthy citizens to the city and the effects of the financial crisis following the great fire in 1872 — these compelled St. Mary's to pass through severe trials." And through them all, a little band of devoted parishioners persisted in maintaining the regular services and in doing what they could for others in the distant mission-fields of the Church's work. Their courage, their faith, and their self-sacrifices preserved and transmitted to this generation the very life of their beloved Parish. They deserve at our hands, not formal thanks or "honorable mention," but, the only worthy recognition acceptable to them, an earnest striving to follow their good examples in the same spirit of loyalty and devotion.

The Rev. W. W. Silvester was called to succeed Mr. Mills, June 9, 1874. He entered on active service five days later, June 14, 1874, the Second Sunday after Trinity. Soon after, about \$2,500 were raised for renovating the church building and \$500 for improving the grounds. In recalling the experiences of his rectorship, Mr. Silvester writes:—"I have only a recollection of continuous hard times and a great struggle forever going on to meet the current expenses of the church. No people were ever more willing, it seems to me, to try and bear the burdens, than the people of St. Mary's. One year I succeeded by personal effort in raising



a sum of money which the Vestry believed it impossible to raise. The truth was, that the people were willing, each one, to do his best, and the instances which *cost something* that year, were undoubtedly a good many; I feel sure they are written down in the book of good deeds to the credit of the faithful."

The only aggressive work done was in laying the foundations of what is now St. Anne's Parish in 1876. It was the Rector's personal work, assisted by Mrs. Anne Phillips, a communicant of St. Mary's Parish, who gave a plot of ground (\$1,000) for that purpose, and aided personally by one or two friends who lived near by. The work passed through the usual stages of parochial existence, beginning with Sunday School sessions in a barber's shop on Dudley Street. These, with the occasional addition of religious services, kept alive an interest in the scheme until, with money raised in various quarters, the church was finally built and, I believe, paid for. Since then, the services have been regularly maintained.

Here again, my friends, we have an instance of the spirit of the life which pervaded St. Mary's Parish. The zealous efforts of the Rector and two or three communicants of this Parish began and continued as long as their help was necessary,—a work which, Bishop Paddock once said, "became a self-supporting Church sooner than any Mission ever started in Boston." St. Anne's Parish is thus, virtually, a child of St. Mary's, owing its existence to her members, and partaking with her of the same ministry.

Not until 1879 did the Rector of St. Mary's, in whose name the property was legally held, sever the tie that bound St. Anne's and St. Mary's by transferring the legal control to the Rector of St. James's Parish, Roxbury. Soon after

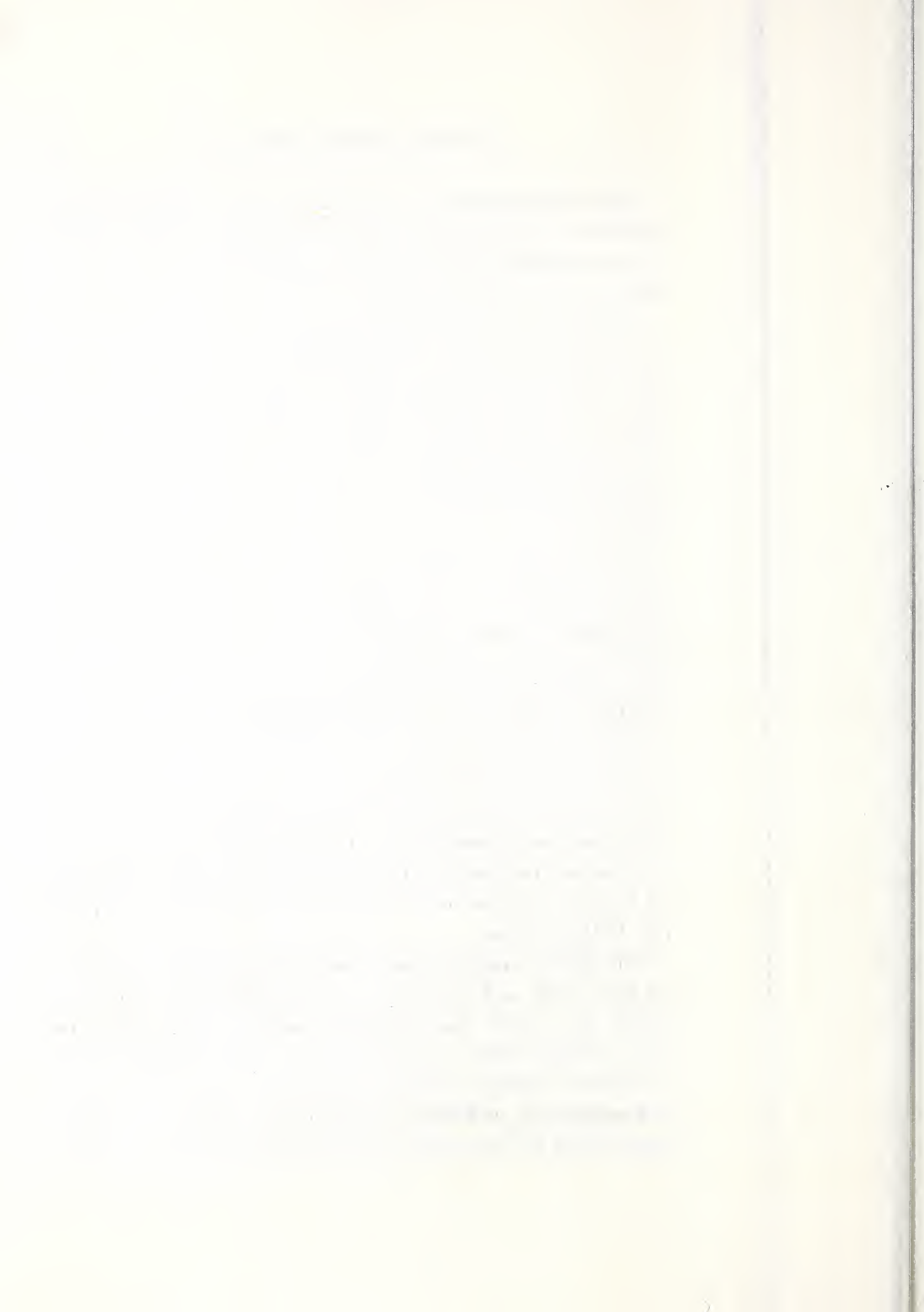


it was duly organized as an independent Parish and was admitted to Convention. After a pastorate of three years and nine months, Mr. Silvester resigned his charge of St. Mary's affairs, March 3, 1878.

The season of Lent, with its customary demand for extra services, was at hand. The committee of the Vestry, charged with "the supply of the pulpit," asked the then Assistant Minister of St. John's Memorial Church, Cambridge, to officiate at some of these. He complied with their request, and, like the patriarch of old, "he went, not knowing whither." It proved to be the "land which God would shew him of."

He was called, while still a Deacon, to the Rectorship, April 12, 1878, and entered upon his duties the first Sunday after Easter. He was ordained Priest in the month of July following. The Parish treasury had so long been in a crippled condition, that for some time it had been questioned whether it were not wise to close the church and once again worship in Lyceum Hall. The indebtedness amounted to \$6,100. The payment of the interest on this sum, in addition to the current expenses, was a heavy burden to the small body of parishioners. To decrease this debt, a fair was held in Horticultural Hall in the fall of 1879. To this the leading churches of the city contributed articles, helpers, and, lastly, patrons.

This effort, carefully planned and most skillfully conducted for eight days and evenings, at a great distance from their homes, by a small band of ladies, calls for much more detailed mention than can now be given. It embodied a spirit of wisdom, courage, devotion and self-sacrifice, and a noble perseverance in well-doing, through the months devoted to preparations for the event, which, account for it as one may,





still manifests pre-eminently a spirit of true consecration and loyal Churchmanship. It is to be hoped that the story of this and subsequent efforts made by the ladies of St. Mary's may be fully told, and all honor given to those leaders and helpers to whom grateful praise is so richly due.

The results of the enterprise were various. Financially, the Parish treasury was the richer by some \$2,300, of which sum the Rev. Dr. Brooks, then Rector of Trinity Church, promised and later gave from his Easter Offering in 1880, \$1,000. The remainder was the net proceeds of the fair itself. Socially, the Parish life was invigorated. In reference to this, one writes that "the tact and energy of the ladies who assumed the lead in this undertaking contributed much to the harmony and kindly spirit which prevailed at the time, and brought the members of a very small Parish into most kindly relations with one another." Subsequently two other fairs were held for this same purpose, — one in the vestry of St. Paul's Church, netting about \$1,000, and the other in Lyceum Hall, Dorchester.

The energy which had thus successfully reduced the debt was next directed to the improvement of the interior of the church. It had a seating capacity of eight hundred — almost equal to that of St. Paul's Church, Boston. To reduce this, a portion of the pews near the entrance were removed, a curtain was extended across the width of the church, and the floor of this large vestibule was covered with matting. At the same time several much-needed repairs were made; the walls were decorated, and four colored glass windows inserted as memorials of departed relatives of the donors. Thus renovated and beautified, the church, already dear to us, became also attractive to those others who now, one by one,



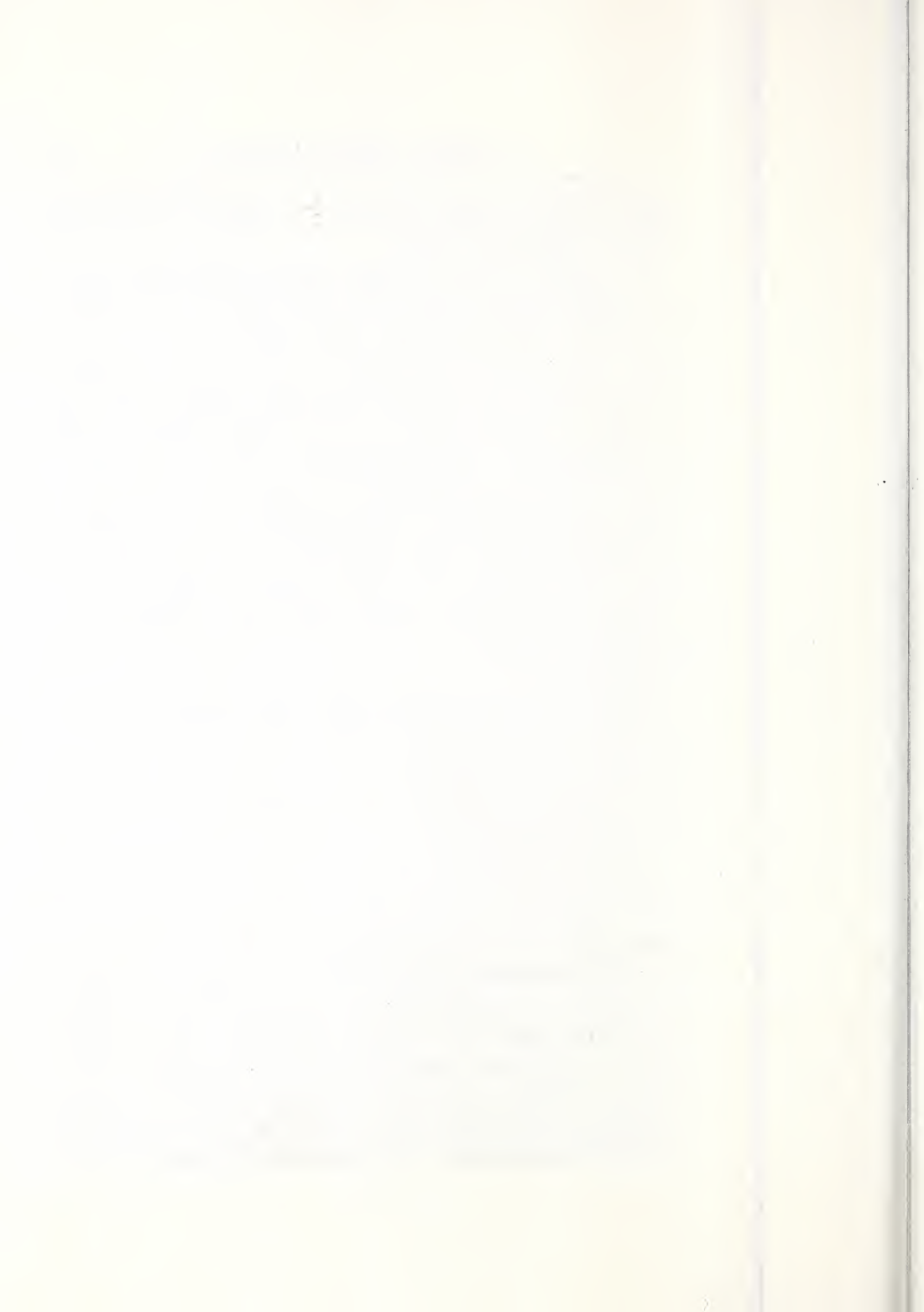
came and cast in their lots with the faithful few who had labored so long and so well.

The people now, for a time, "rested from their labors" and heartily enjoyed what their earnest efforts had secured. To them—now as perhaps never before—it was "none other than the house of God." He had set His name there, and in it He gave the "peace which passeth all understanding." As their church, it was forever associated with their deepest and holiest experiences. It had in a mysterious way become bound up in the bundle of their lives. There was something peculiarly feminine in its influence. It had a tenderness and spirituality all its own. It was gentle, devout, comforting and worshipful. It was indeed a "house of prayer," yet it was pervaded by a presence as of a noble womanly nature—tender, true and holy. It was—St. Mary's.

How subtle and penetrating this influence was; how dear to the hearts of all the building which enshrined it had become; what an important element it had supplied in the social and domestic experience of the parishioners, they did not realize until the end.

And how suddenly that end came!

It was early morning, between 2 and 3 o'clock, June 15, 1887, when those who lived nearest, aroused by the roar of flames, the crash of falling beams, the unusual glare of light, the sound of escaping steam, and the shouts of excited men, recognized at once that the church was doomed. In less than three short hours the work of destruction was completed. Four-fifths of the building had disappeared. The northern end alone remained. The unconscious woodbine still clung confidently to its trellis, and hung in peaceful pendants from the porch. The door, so often opened to wel-



come those who came to worship, even now stood open, but it framed a picture of charred beams, twisted girders, and piles of bricks and cinders. Altar and organ, pulpit, lectern and pew, all mingled their ashes in one common and confused mass. The very foundations were laid bare. It might almost be said that "not one stone was left upon another," so thoroughly had the work of destruction been done. The scene embodied the very spirit of hopeless desolation,—a spirit which can be voiced in no better words than those of Jeremiah's Lamentation: "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me. He hath sent fire into my bones, and it prevaileth against them. He hath made me desolate."

The tears shed at the sight of St. Mary's ruins were those of sincere affection; the expressions of sorrow and affliction were simple and earnest. The loss of the church was a personal loss to each parishioner. Nor to them alone: for as the news spread, all hearts that heard it were moved, for all had that 'one touch of nature (which) makes all the world <sup>akin</sup>.' Expressions of sympathy were general and generous. The fire occurred early Wednesday morning, and before the following Sunday kind offers of the use of their houses of worship had been received from the officers of the Unitarian, Baptist and other societies. With these, one came from a parishioner, promptly and generously placing Winthrop Hall, of which he was the owner, at our disposal. This latter was gratefully accepted, and the sad and somewhat disheartened people met there for worship the Sunday following. This was the first of a series of Morning Services, followed by Sunday School sessions during the noon hour, which continued about eighteen months.





St. Mary's Parish was now homeless. Its financial resources were very limited. Among its members not one was wealthy; a very few had moderate incomes; the majority were salaried clerks or wage-earners. The business outlook was not hopeful. Something was being done in the world's markets, but "the times" had no air of prosperity either present or to come. Nor was a careful estimate of its assets encouraging. The insurance policy was worth, when paid in full, only \$11,000, but from that amount should be taken about \$2,500 to cancel the remaining mortgage debt, and at least \$500 more were needed to buy a quit-claim deed to the land in case it were decided to sell the site of the old church; and at that time the sale of land so situated and encumbered with ruins seemed quite improbable. The available assets of the Parish, therefore, amounted to \$8,000. To this it was thought that the parishioners could and would in time add, say, \$5,000. But this was conjectural. What, then, was to be done?

I will not weary you, my friends, with the story of the new St. Mary's; how the idea of a new church in a more central location only gradually took shape and gained acceptance; how carefully the condition of the Parish was considered in several meetings, and its possible future pictured; how hard it was for some to sunder the ties which bound them to the old location; how difficult it was to find a new site both suited to our purpose and within our means of purchase,—a site which presented the most advantages and the fewest disadvantages; how great were the discouragements of the way when once it had been decided to build elsewhere, and the work of collecting a Building Fund began; how our earnest desires and repeated efforts for consolidation with St. Ann's Parish finally failed; how the mere getting of subscriptions



outside the Parish required four months of time and hundreds of miles of travelling; how the story of St. Mary's needs was told along the New England coast, from Bar Harbor to Newport, to some sympathetic and some indifferent listeners, — some courteous and kindly, others harsh and almost abusive; how misunderstandings of men and motives, apparently inevitable when many persons are intensely interested in one common object, gave pain when it was least suspected and where it was least deserved; how the advance movement began in October, 1887, with the purchase of the present site (20,318 feet); how difficult it was to secure the drawings for a church building which, when erected, should not again involve the Parish in burdensome financial obligations; how the first suggestion of the present edifice was hastily sketched by one whom many still gratefully know as their "beloved physician"; how that sketch was fully developed by one of the foremost ecclesiastical architects in New England; and, finally, how weary were the months of waiting until early in the spring of 1888 (April 8), the sod should be cut and the foundations of the much-needed church be laid. To give the details here and now of what has thus been outlined would be as wearisome as unnecessary.

Nor need I mention the fact that the Rector, sick in mind and body, was granted a six months' rest, except to connect with that fact a grateful recognition of the kindness of his clerical brethren, who during his absence, often at much personal inconvenience, ministered to the faithful few who regularly met for worship in Winthrop Hall. These incidents must all be passed with a mere mention, yet they are far more important than some others recorded in detail. For it was such experiences as these that welded our lives with that of the Parish, enriching it by the best that each



had to give, and ennobling ours by giving each his share in that larger and common inheritance which we to-day rejoice in.

The corner-stone of this, the new church, was laid July 2, 1888, by the Rector, assisted by the Rev. C. T. Whittemore, of All Saints' Church, Ashmont, and the Rev. A. H. Wright of St. Ann's Church, Dorchester. Slowly—it seemed to many *very* slowly—the work of construction proceeded during the ensuing months. However, it was so far advanced by November 11 that a Vestry Meeting could be held in the new building on that date. The few weeks immediately following were brightened by joyful anticipations and busy with preparations for the long-expected first Service in the new church. That occurred on Christmas Day, 1888. The words of the Angels' Song were the text of the sermon at that Service, and a grateful and happy Parish then and there found the long-familiar phrases charged with a new significance. The original meaning was emphasized, specialized and intensified by the joyful spirit of the occasion. Surely the emotions then stirring the hearts of all there present could find no more beautiful expression than in that ancient ascription of "Glory to God in the highest," and the mingled benediction and prayer for "Peace on earth and good will towards men."

The building of which the Parish had now taken formal possession was not a completed church, but only the nave of a cruciform structure, to which at some future time transepts and chancel might be added. A newspaper notice of the time described the material of the walls as being "scam-faced granite and Longmeadow stone"; the style of architecture, "the English Gothic of the 15th century," and the interior of the church as "tasteful and handsome." A few





years later, when it was completed, Bishop Brooks described it as "one of the pleasantest interiors in the Diocese."

It may be well to pause here and recall the ways and means employed in the attainment of this result.

The old site on Bowdoin street had been sold for \$5,000. The insurance money, after certain deductions already referred to, yielded \$8,000. Contributions from within the Parish amounted to about \$5,000; and donations, secured by personal solicitation without the Parish, added about \$9,000, of which \$1,000 was given to the Organ Fund *in memoriam*. With this sum, say \$26,000 on paper and in bank, and \$6,500 obtained as a loan—in all, a total of \$32,500—the land was bought and the nave of the church erected.

But where was the money needed for the purchase of an altar, a lectern, a pulpit, the chancel rail, and the sedilia, to be obtained? That question had been asked and answered long before. Loyal hearts, active minds and willing hands had long been busy planning and working for the means with which the new church should be properly furnished. And so, before the day appointed for the first Service, most of those useful and beautiful gifts were in place.

The altar was the gift of the members of the Altar Guild, aided by their friends. The Young Ladies' Bible Class gave the lectern. The Sunday School bought the font. The pulpit was given by one now "numbered with the saints,"—one whose gracious presence, ready sympathy and clear intuitions had for ten years been a source of inspiration and hope to her fellow-workers. The chancel rail was presented by another, her intimate and valued friend, not less active and loyal, who still faithfully serves the Parish she loves. The Bishop's chair and the altar cross represent the earnest desires and successful efforts of one still interested and effi-



cient in St. Mary's welfare and usefulness. The Rector's (or as she preferred to call it, "her Minister's") chair represents the proceeds of eighteen months of patient labor and endeavor on the part of an aged widow, who, when able, went from door to door selling iron-holders which her trembling hands had made out of materials given her for that purpose. Her simple piety, intense loyalty, and persistent devotion to her Parish furnishes an example stimulating and worthy of emulation. The pulpit lamp and its wrought-iron bracket were bought with the savings from a small salary. The altar vases were, and are, the tokens of his family's love for their beloved and venerated father, who for thirty-seven years served his Parish as Senior Warden. The generous donation of a lady, long known in the Parish for her kind interest in its affairs, enabled the committee to furnish the church, as it then was, with pews in antique oak. One gentleman manifested his zeal and good will in his successful efforts to increase the Organ Fund.

Such, my friends, were some of the ways and means employed by St. Mary's people to furnish their new and beautiful house of worship. Remember, I have not mentioned the gifts because of their value in dollars and cents, nor yet for their beauty and fitness, although some of them richly deserve such allusion. I have not spoken of the money raised within or without the Parish to buy the new land and build the new church, in order to boast of it. But rather I have alluded to these facts simply to set forth the tone and temper of that subtle and precious endowment of which you are now the privileged guardians and stewards, — namely, the unique and precious life of St. Mary's.

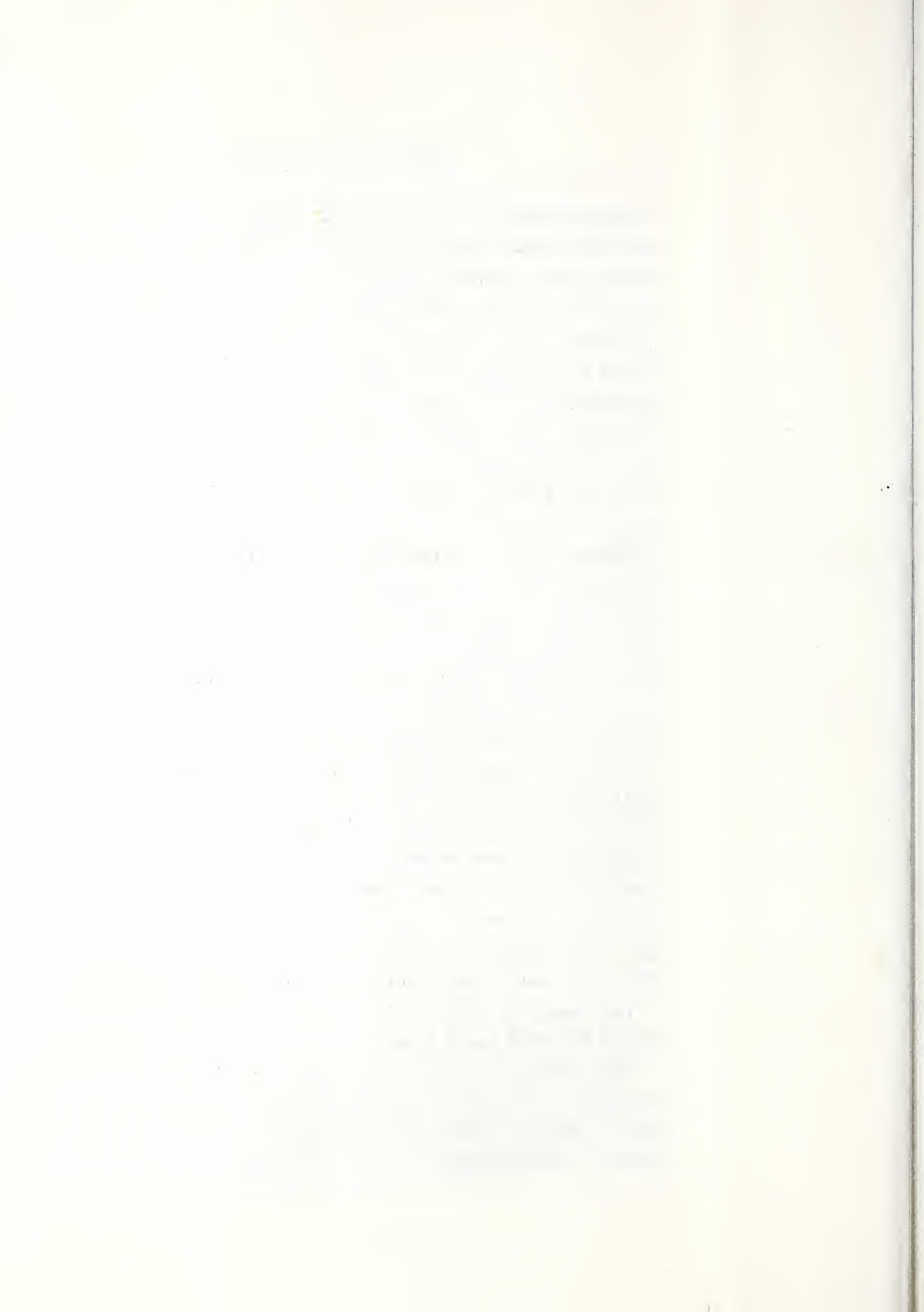
Other Parishes there are, no doubt, which in their days of prosperity and of adversity have been ministered unto by



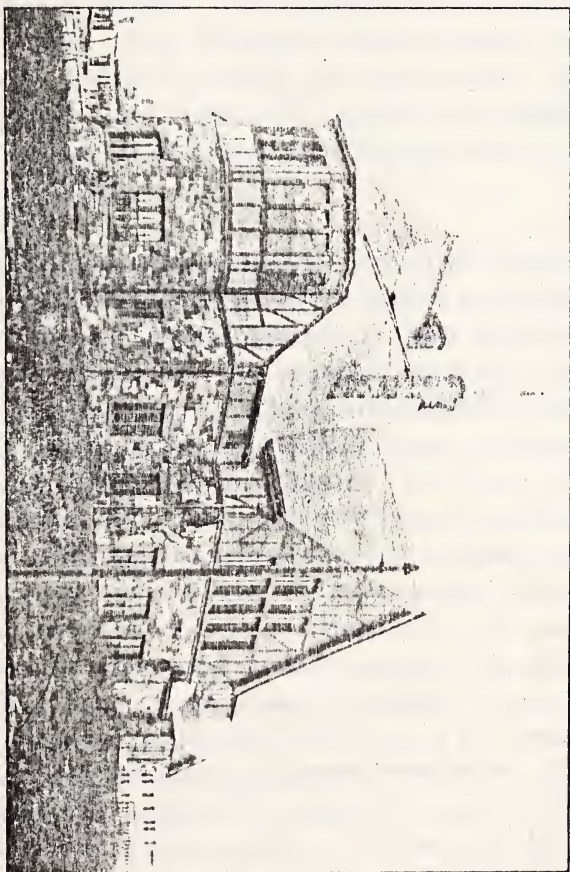
faithful women and earnest men. Other Parishes there may be, where, when occasion required, noble acts of individual consecration, generous gifts and self-sacrifices have all but crowned the actors with aureoles of sainthood. But it is my conviction that nowhere, at least in this century, can be found a Parish-life which, as a whole, has manifested more spirituality, more earnestness, more devotion in times of adversity, than has St. Mary's. Years of hard struggling for self-maintenance and a gradual release from debt had been followed by the total destruction of the building which was the object of their devoted endeavors and watchful care. Saddened, but not despairing, the homeless few began to estimate their scanty resources and to plan, as was simply their duty, the erection of a new church. How they accomplished their self-imposed task your ears have just heard, and your eyes now see the material results of their efforts. The nave of this church, as it formerly was, and the gifts with which it was enriched and fitted for use, gave evidence of a Parish-life at once devoted and earnest, persistent and self-sacrificing. And this life it was which on Christmas Day, 1888, the festival of our Lord's Incarnation—a most fitting coincidence—was embodied and “clothed upon” by the conditions of a new form, with new dimensions, and of new material. At last St. Mary's had risen from her ashes and once again taken her place, in visible shape, in the society which had long known and respected her.

The story of the succeeding nine years need be only briefly outlined, for it is well known to many.

The removal from the old location on Bowdoin street to the present site necessitated the opening of a Sunday School for St. Mary's children who then lived near the “Upper Road,” or Washington street. Occasionally the session was







ST. MARY'S, 1897.





closed with the Service of Evening Prayer provided in our Prayer Book. This germ of an independent life thus maintained itself through many months. September 16, 1888, it was formally organized as a Mission, with the Rector of St. Mary's in charge. The names of thirty-five adults were then enrolled, and about the same number of children constituted the Sunday School. The services were held regularly by the Rector every Sunday afternoon during two years, excepting, I believe, during the hot months. In September, 1894, the Rev. Charles E. Barnes was engaged and assumed charge of what had then become known as the Grove Hall Mission.

In the Mother Parish the outlook was once again hopeful. New faces appeared in the pews, and new names were gradually added to the list of parishioners. A rapid growth, if such were then at all possible, was prevented by at least two hindrances: First, the lack of suitable accommodations for social meetings, society work, and Sunday School sessions; and second, the ill-health of the Rector. To remedy the first, it was decided early in the spring of 1891 to complete the church by adding the two transepts and the chancel, the basements of which would supply the much-needed rooms. This was done during the following summer, and cost about \$17,000. Thus the total cost of building and land was about \$49,500. The erection of the chancel furnished an opportunity which a family long honored and loved in the Parish gladly improved by inserting the beautiful window over the altar, embodying the words: "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let all the angels of God worship Him." The second obstacle—the continued ill-health of the Rector—was removed by his resignation and withdrawal, Nov.

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25, 1891. He had held office about thirteen years and eight months.

The history of the almost six years which have intervened between that and the present date reveals steady growth and increasing usefulness. The Rev. Walter E. C. Smith, the present Rector, began his pastorate February 14, 1892. With him came several of his former congregation, members of the Mission Chapel of the Ascension, connected with Emmanuel Church, Boston. The Parish responded cordially and loyally to its new leader. The infusion of new blood renewed its vigor. With its newly-completed structure it was enabled to offer new solutions to old problems. The great increase in the number of residents in the section tributary to the church; the extension of the street railway system to districts formerly disconnected from this locality; the successful maintenance of services more attractive than was possible in former years; the quickening influences of a new personality, with new views of truth and new modes of expression,—these were among the conditions and evidences of St. Mary's growth and prosperity.

A reference to the pages of the Parish Year Book will show in what ways and by what hands the true interests of the Parish are now conserved and its charitable works carried on.

We have now completed our review of the history of this Parish from its beginning until the present day. If its recital has been wearisome, my only apology is that it seemed to be necessary that you might know and rightly value, not the amount of money raised, nor yet the abundant charitable works done in the past, but the character of the Parish thus expressing itself, and that you might learn to love and cherish that subtle, indescribable, yet active force



which has so effectually found ways to manifest itself through fifty years of sunshine and shadow, namely, the Parish-life.

In conclusion, then, let me ask you to notice that this life has been *continuous*. Notwithstanding the many and trying vicissitudes which have endangered at times its very existence, I find no record of any cessation of its Services, or of any long period of vacancy in the Rectorship. This is worth noting, because of the peculiarly trying circumstances which accompanied the Civil War, the Boston fire, the annexation of the town to the city, the destruction of one church and the building of another. The ministry of this Parish to its own people, and, through them, to the community at large, has been unbroken and continuous for fifty years. What have been the results of St. Mary's existence and activity upon those most subject to her influences, and, indeed, upon the social life of the district, it would be as impossible to estimate as to describe. Her simple and worshipful Services, her devout administration of the Sacraments, her works of charity, first for her own poor and then in aid of missionary needs in distant fields,—these have given regular and unfailing witness of her existence and dutiful spirit. The "*personnel*" of the Parish has changed, but the Parish has continued and maintained its own personality (if I may so say) unaltered. Nay, so strong has been its individuality, that its characteristics have been impressed on its changing elements.

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They are not far to seek who are "living epistles" of St. Mary's peculiar influences. These look back with filial affection to the days when, under the guidance of her faithful Priests, they were brought up in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord." And, far or near, her children may be found in mature years, some in the ranks of the Church's





ministry, others serving faithfully her missionary interests, and others still simply lay members of various Parishes. But wherever found, or whatever their position, they are not found forgetful of or ungrateful for the gentle influences which came into their lives while they worshiped at her altar.

Again, it is worth noting that this Parish-life is *composite*. As a "composite photograph" is the resulting impression of many faces, each individual and peculiar, yet all agreeing in a certain common arrangement of features, so into the life of St. Mary's have entered separate and peculiar personal influences, differing and distinct, yet having in common those estimable qualities which characterize the Parish itself. How earnest, sincere, devout and devoted some of these lives were, it is not my privilege to tell. Their names and even their characteristics must remain unmentioned. And indeed they themselves would not wish otherwise. They gave to Christ and His Church their very best. The Master accepted their gifts and fashioned them by His Spirit into that fair and beautiful inheritance which is yours to-day,—that peculiarly feminine character, blending in one, spirituality, helpfulness, tenderness and earnestness, which is—St. Mary's.

The history of this continuous and composite life, during fifty years of changing and varied experiences, reveals the active exercise of many virtues, but none more so than these three—Loyalty, Self-sacrifice, and Persistence. I dare not dwell upon each of those traits, so amply illustrated as each has been in the historical sketch which you have heard. It is sufficient that I claim for them your special notice and most watchful care. Into your hands God has committed the development of this continuous and composite Parish-life. "Other men have labored, and,"



under God's guidance, "you have entered into their labors." It is for you to maintain your fair inheritance and further its growth in internal strength and external usefulness. How may this most surely be done? Look to the past for the answer.

The story which I have rehearsed in your hearing this morning speaks in no uncertain tones. We can hear voices behind us saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." They bid you, first, *be loyal* to your Parish in thought, word and deed; second, *be self-sacrificing* for your Parish. Whatever else you may or may not have given, or yet have to give, there still remains—your very self. When opportunity offers and the need is manifest, be self-sacrificing for St. Mary's sake. Serve your Parish personally and actively, both at its altar in regular attendance, and also in its efforts to do good unto all men. In short, work for her and with her, and she will repay—now as in former years—double and treble for every faithful effort in her behalf. And, lastly, *be persistent*, not impulsive, in your activities. It is the lesson of "patient continuance in well-doing" that the story of the last half-century illustrates and enforces. Persist, then, and persevere in working for and with your Parish.

Loyalty, Self-sacrifice and Persistence—these terms clearly indicate moral qualities which, as history shows, are distinguishing features of St. Mary's parochial life. These, asserting their peculiar and subtle influences in critical moments, have been formative and directive in the past. Upon this occasion, so joyful, so significant, they seem to focus themselves by no mere chance. For now, at the close of its first half-century, the Parish may attain a distinct consciousness of itself, may clearly recognize its individuality, may properly estimate its own worth, and, rightly appre-

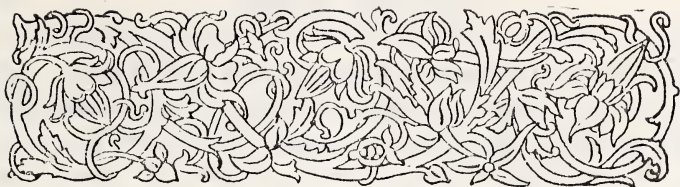


ciating both its privileges and its responsibilities, it may "wisely improve the present, and go forth to meet the shadowy future," with a confidence fixed and unwavering in Him who has thus far led it on.

If, then, this occasion be rightly improved,—if it be made an opportunity not merely for recollection, congratulation, and devout thanksgiving, but also a time for self-consecration in behalf of the welfare and work of St. Mary's Parish, then from this focal point will radiate helpful and formative influences; then the voices from the Past, which we have heard to-day, will not have spoken in vain; then Loyalty, Self-sacrifice and Persistence will enable you to preserve intact, and transmit, enriched and invigorated by your own best qualities, that continuous and composite life which is your fair inheritance and precious charge to-day. Upon such faithful stewardship God's blessing has heretofore been abundantly bestowed; and as in Him "there is no variableness nor shadow of turning," we know that the "sure mercies" vouchsafed in the past will be continued in the future. Hence it requires no prophet to declare that, *if you will to have it so*, "the glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former."





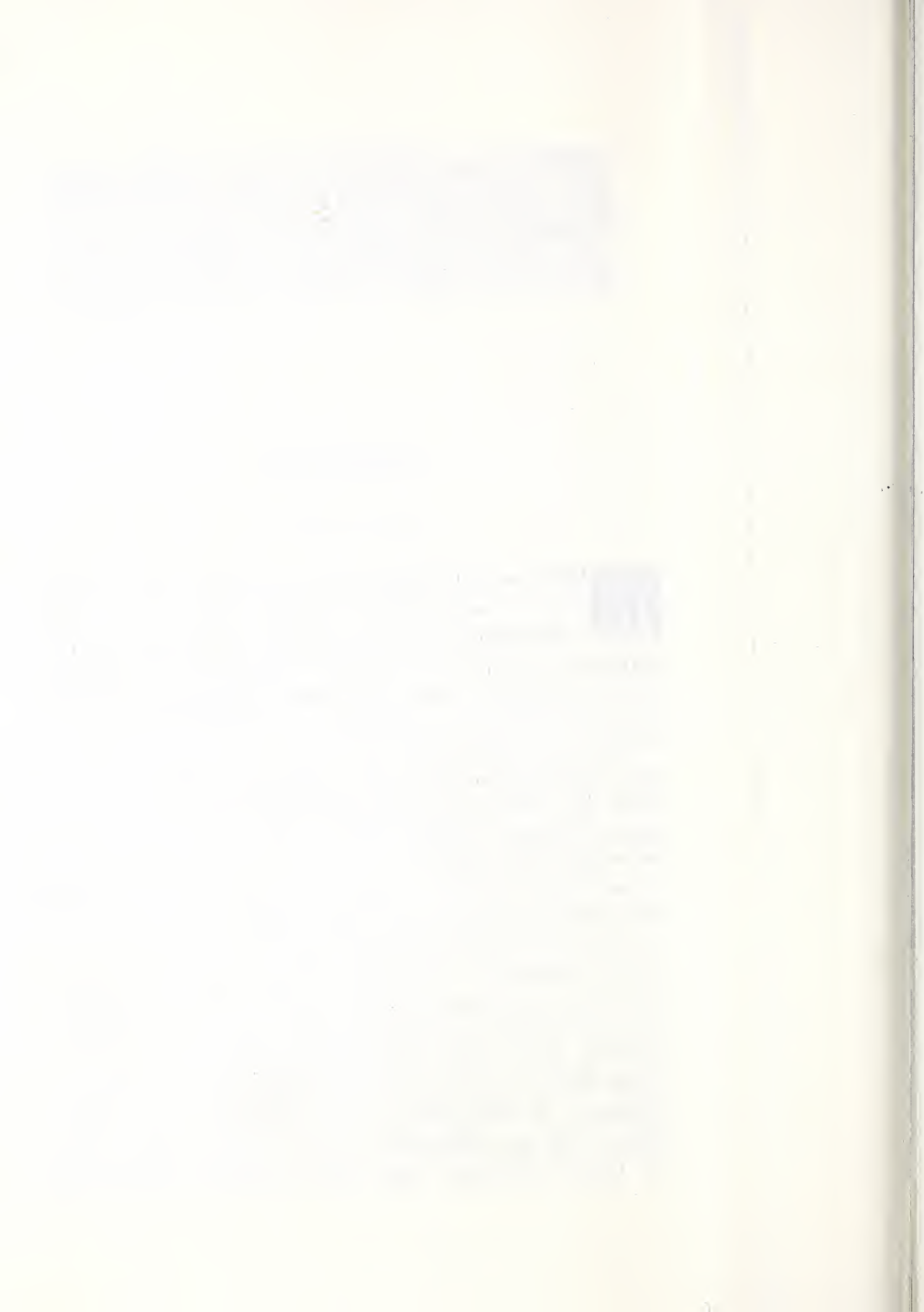


## ANNALS

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**T**HE Town of Dorchester was settled as early as 1630, but it was not until comparatively a late period that we discover any interest in the formation of a Parish of the Episcopal Church. Until 1806 there was in Dorchester but one church, the First Parish, which grew out of the great historic movement which brought the Puritans to the shore of Massachusetts Bay. Between the years 1806 and 1847 there must have been some unusual religious interest in the town, for we find that there were six denominational churches established within these years, all of which, we believe, are to-day in a strong and healthy condition. Those familiar with the religious history of this time will recall the long and, we must admit, bitter struggle between Dr. Codman, representing the Evangelical spirit of the town, and the Unitarians. It is believed that this controversy led in a measure to some of these new Parishes of Dorchester. In the City of Boston in the year 1843 — the year that Bishop Griswold died — there were seven Episcopal Churches: — Christ Church, begun in 1723; Trinity Church, 1734; St. Matthew's, in South Boston, 1818; St. Paul's, 1820; Grace Church, now the Methodist Church, Temple Street, 1830; St. James's, Roxbury, 1834, and St. John's, Charlestown,





1842. The King's Chapel, which had been in existence since 1689, passed over to the Unitarians in 1787. In 1844 the Church of the Advent began its services in a hall on Merri-mac Street. In 1845 St. John's, Jamaica Plain, was in existence. On Nov. 10, 1847, the corner-stone of the Church of the Messiah was laid. In the meanwhile the Mission work of the Rev. E. M. P. Wells had grown into strength, and in 1846 a building was erected in Purchase Street, known as St. Stephen's Chapel, where Dr. Wells labored with the poor until the building was destroyed by the terrible fire of Nov. 9, 1872, which also destroyed old Trinity Church on Summer Street.

During the years of Bishop Griswold's Episcopate, years when the Evangelical spirit prevailed not only in the Church of England, but in the Parishes of this land, there was little that could be called active thought or enterprise in Church life. Men believed and thought much as their fathers had done before them. There had been no stirring controversies, no perplexities of faith and doctrine; yet, notwithstanding this, the Church life was deepening, and under the leadership of the Bishop, distinguished as he was by a singular hopefulness and courage, a sweetness and reasonableness of temper, the Church won for herself a permanent place in the religious life of the community. But before the Bishop's death there were signs of a new religious departure. From England came the impulse of a new and aggressive school of thought. It was in 1833 that the "Tracts for the Times" appeared at Oxford, and from then on until 1841 a constant series of treatises were issued, with the aim of reviving what was called "Catholic Doctrine and Ceremonies." Led by such men as Dr. Pusey and John Henry Newman, the school attracted many of the ablest and most devoted of the young Churchmen of England. This movement was natural enough, being indeed the protest of a partly neglected side of religious life. In a measure in response to this new influence in



England, but probably more in response to similar causes felt here in New England, it is not surprising that we discover Church life here in Boston to be touched by the new power and thought.

In the year 1843 the Rev. Dr. Manton Eastburn became Bishop of Massachusetts. For years the Bishop did what he could to resist the growing influence of the High Churchmen. "I am well aware," he writes, "that there is a new sect lately sprung up among us, called Puseyites, or Low Papists, who have, chiefly in England, written and preached and published much against the Reformation, and are endeavoring to bring back into the Church of England many of those superstitious mummeries and idolatrous practices, for protesting against which so many of her pious Bishops and other ministers have been burnt at the stake."

Year after year the sturdy and unyielding Bishop attacked the new ideas in his Convention addresses. In 1845 he issued a "Pastoral," calling public attention to the state of affairs in the Church, and detailing its "various offensive innovations" upon the ancient usage of the Church, and in 1846 he positively refused to visit the Church of the Advent which, under the guidance of a very saintly and attractive personality, stood for a very pronounced High Churchmanship.

It is interesting to recall that it was about this time that Macaulay wrote his essay on "Von Ranke and the Papacy," in which the writer clearly betrays his feeling of anxiety at the growing power and fascination of the Roman Church. It was only two years after Macaulay wrote his essay that Tennyson published, in 1842, "Locksley Hall," so full of dread and despair.

At such a time and under some such influences St. Mary's Church in Dorchester was formed. There is the tradition, which one is not disposed to question, that some of the members of St. James's Church, Roxbury, living in Dorchester,



were active in the establishment of this new work. It is very certain that the Rev. John P. Robinson, then Rector of Christ Church, Quincy, by invitation of several earnest and active Episcopalians, appointed a public service at the Town Hall in Dorchester, according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Before Mr. Robinson was Rector at Quincy he had had charge of a Mission for sailors in Ann Street, Boston, which still survives in what is known as the Free Church of St. Mary for Sailors, in East Boston.

Evening Prayer was conducted for the first time in Dorchester by the Rev. Mr. Robinson, on Sunday, July 16, 1843, and followed by an "impressive" sermon upon St. John's Gospel, iii: 16. The congregation numbered about fifty persons. This was the first time, so far as is known, that the Book of Common Prayer was publicly used in Dorchester. The interest manifested in this Service seemed so substantial that the Clergyman immediately made a general appointment for a Service of Evening Prayer once in two weeks. The services thus begun were continued with occasional interruption, until January 28th, and after this only on rare occasions. The Rev. Mr. Robinson conducted services eight times in the year 1843. On one Sunday the place of Mr. Robinson was supplied by the Rev. D. Richmond Brewer, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Cambridgeport. In 1844 Mr. Robinson conducted services on four Sunday evenings, during which time it was thought inexpedient to organize a Parish. From the very first, gentlemen of wealth residing in Dorchester, expressed their interest in the establishment of worship here according to the Liturgy of the Episcopal Church, by the proposal of donations of eligible lots of land as sites for the anticipated church edifice; yet prudence seemed to advise a delay in the erection of a building. From 1844 until June, 1847, it is supposed that no Church services were held: at any rate no records have been preserved. In 1846 the Rev. David Greene Haskins offered a lot of land (see Bishop





Eastburn's letter on page 11), but his sickness prevented its coming into the possession of the Parish.

At a meeting held in June, 1847, a subscription list was circulated, in order to secure pledges of contributions for the erection of a church edifice. The list bears the names of persons whose united subscriptions amount to \$1,150. Nothing was done in the way of organizing a Parish until July 29th, 1847, when a public meeting was held to consider the subject. This meeting was continued by adjournment to August 11th, when a petition for a warrant, calling a legal meeting for organization, was drawn up. With this petition, which follows, we have the beginning of the Parish Records, from which, and the Vestry Records for the past fifty years, the Annals of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, are now publicly printed for the first time.

It seems fitting just here to add in connection with this history of the Episcopal Church in Dorchester, that Dorchester gave to Massachusetts her first Bishop. In the address of Bishop Lawrence upon the recent Centennial Celebration of the Consecration of the Rt. Rev. Edward Bass, D. D., as the first Bishop of Massachusetts, occurs this paragraph:—

“Edward Bass, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Bass, was born in Dorchester, Nov. 13, 1726, and four days later, braving the November winds, was carried to the First Church and there baptized.”

Dorchester has also given to the Church several Presbyters,—among them the Rev. James Blake Howe, for whom a tablet was placed over the pulpit of the old St. Mary's Church, which remained until the church was burned, and was replaced very recently, at the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Parish, by a prayer-desk with the old tablet inscription reproduced. The Rev. William Withington, the Rev. Darius Richmond Brewer, and the Rev. John A. Emery, Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Missions for the State of



California, and the Rev. Wm. S. Emery, Rector of Christ Church, Norwich, Conn., are others who grew up here in Dorchester, and the last two were children of St. Mary's.

The petition of August 11, 1847, for a warrant, was addressed to the Hon. S. P. Loud, J. P., representing that "the signers have associated themselves for the support and enjoyment of public worship, under the name of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester." The petition is as follows:—

*P. R.* To the honorable Samuel P. Loud, one of the Justices of the Peace within and for the county of Norfolk.

The undersigned respectfully represent that they have associated for the support and enjoyment of public worship, under the name of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester. They therefore respectfully request your Honor to issue a warrant directing one of our members to notify the qualified voters of said Parish to meet at such time and place as may be therein specified, for the purpose of legal organization, according to the provisions of the Twentieth Chapter of the Revised Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

WM. WITHINGTON,  
JOSEPH HOOPER,  
ROBT. RICHARDSON,  
THOS. HILL,  
EDWARD HOLDEN,  
A. W. HAYTER.

Dorchester, August 11, 1847.

A true copy of the original Petition on file.

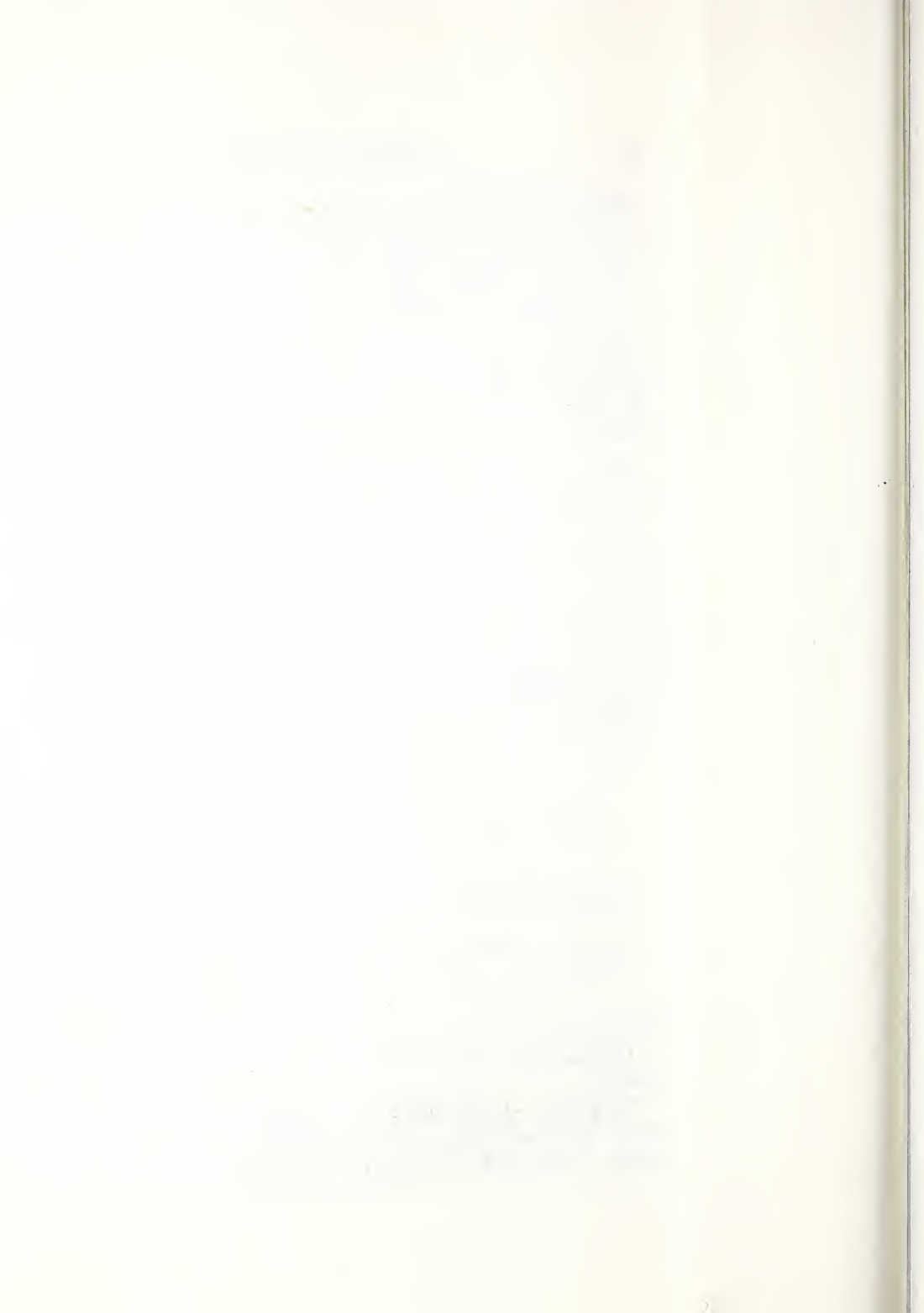
*Attest,*

EDWARD HOLDEN,  
*Parish Clerk.*

Norfolk, ss.

To Robt. Richardson, of Dorchester, in said County of Norfolk, Trader,

GREETING.—In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: You are hereby required to notify and warn the qualified voters of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester aforesaid,



to meet at Lyceum Hall in said Town, on Monday, the twenty-third day of August current, at seven of the clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of legal organization, according to the provisions of the twenty-sixth and the three succeeding Sections of the Twentieth Chapter of the Revised Statutes of the Commonwealth aforesaid, by acting upon the following Articles, to wit :

*First.* — To choose a Parish Clerk.

*Second.* — To choose a Moderator.

*Third.* — To determine the form of organization and government of said Parish, the qualification of voters or members thereof, — the manner of calling future meetings, and to adopt such other measures as may be required to complete the establishment of said Parish.

*Fourth.* — To elect Wardens, Vestrymen, and such other Parish Officers as may be required.

*Fifth.* — To take order for the erection, purchase or lease of a church edifice or house for public worship.

*Sixth.* — To know whether the Parish will adopt any measures for the establishment of Public Worship therein.

Hereof fail not : and make return of this warrant, with your doings thereon to either of the Justices of the Peace within and for said County of Norfolk, at the time and place above mentioned.

Given under my hand and seal at Dorchester, aforesaid, this thirteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

SAM'L P. LOUD,

*Justice of the Peace.*

Under this warrant, Robert Richardson issued a call, August 13, 1847, for a meeting of the qualified voters of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester, on August 23, 1847, at 7 o'clock in the afternoon. This, the first legal meeting of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, held at Lyceum Hall, was called to order by Moses Draper, Esq., Justice of the Peace, who called for, and counted the ballots for clerk, and made proclamation that Edward Holden was duly elected clerk.



P. R. Norfolk, ss.

DORCHESTER, Aug. 23, 1847.

Then personally appeared the above named Edward Holden, and was, in open Parish meeting, legally qualified as Parish Clerk, by taking the oath of said office as required by law.

Before me,

MOSES DRAPER,

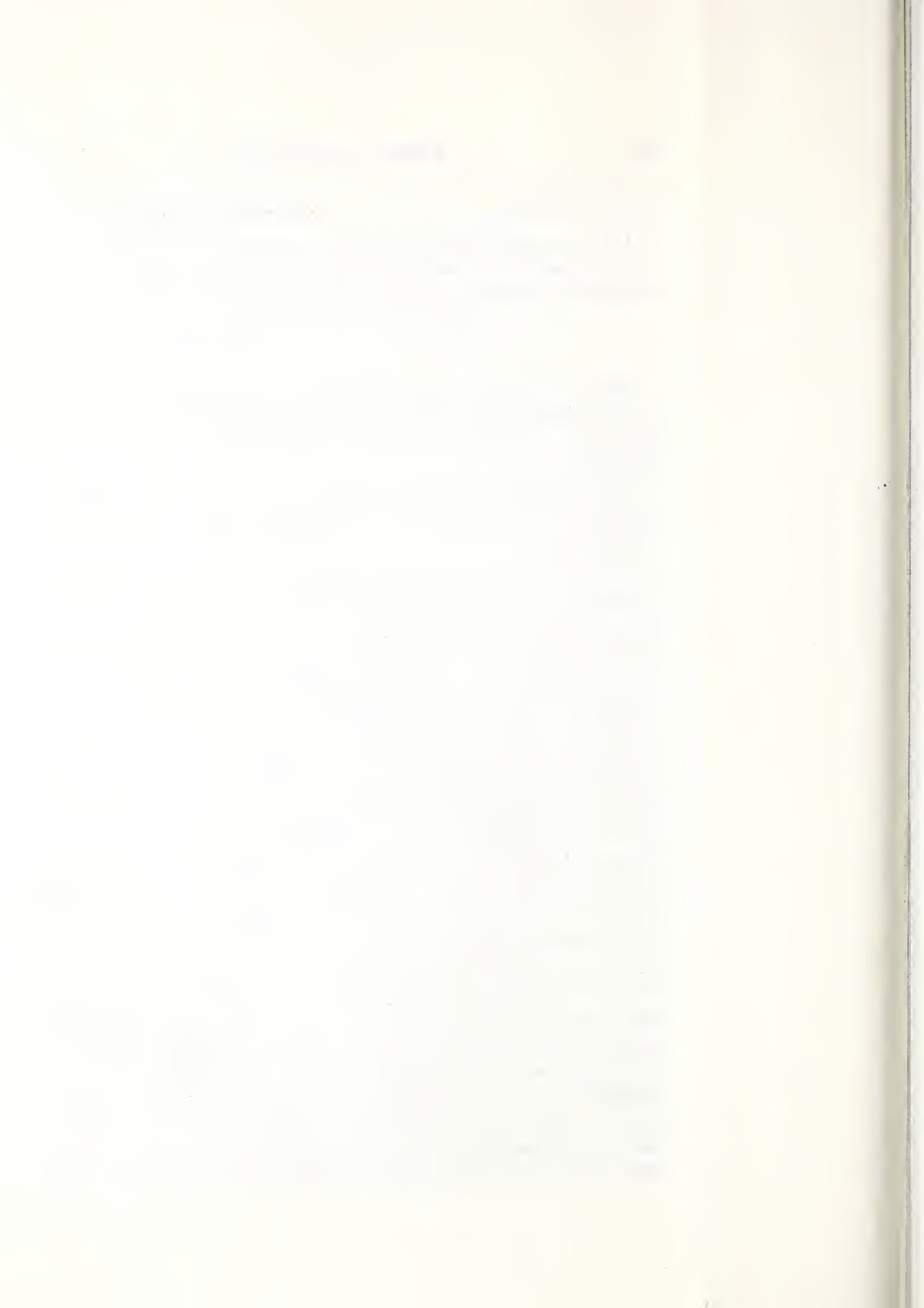
*Justice of the Peace.*

The said Edward Holden, Parish Clerk, as aforesaid, then took the chair and called for and received the ballots of the Parish for Moderator, whereupon Robert Richardson was declared elected Moderator.

Upon the Third Article of the Warrant being read, the following Compact and code of By-Laws were presented for the action of the Parish, to wit:

To the end that the Public Worship of Almighty God may be established and maintained within the town of Dorchester; in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America:— We, the subscribers, do hereby associate for the institution and support of a body corporate or Parish by the name of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester. And we do hereby accede to, and agree to support and abide by the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and of the Diocese of Massachusetts. And we do also, hereby, adopt and establish for the perpetual use of said Parish, the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church, as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other rites and ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. And we do ordain and declare, that the government of the said Parish of St. Mary's Church shall be vested in a Vestry, which shall consist of two Wardens and five or more Vestrymen, who, together with a Parish Clerk and a Treasurer, shall be chosen by ballot upon the day of the organization of said Parish, and annually thereafter upon Easter Monday, from among the members of said Parish. And we do further ordain and declare, that no person shall ever be entitled to vote at any legal meeting of said Parish unless the name of such person shall have been enrolled upon the





books of the Parish, nor unless he shall have been a member of the congregation of said St. Mary's Church for the space of six calendar months next preceding such meeting; Provided, nevertheless, that any person who shall become a member of said Parish within sixty days next following the first legal meeting of said Parish shall be deemed and held to be a member thereof to all intents and purposes. And we do hereby declare it to be the right of the said Parish of St. Mary's Church, when duly organized, to enact and ordain such By-Laws as may be deemed necessary to the efficient action of the body corporate; provided such By-Laws shall in no wise contravene the provisions of this Compact, or of any part thereof.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Dorchester aforesaid, this twenty-third day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

Upon motion, it was *Voted*, that the above Compact be adopted and confirmed as the Constitution of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester.

#### BY-LAWS.

##### *Of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester.*

*Article First.*—The annual meeting of the qualified voters of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, shall be held upon Easter Monday at such place and hour as the Vestry may appoint. And the Vestry may call special meetings at their own discretion, or upon written request of any five members of said Parish. And all meetings shall be called by warrant, given under the hands of the Wardens or of three or more members of the Vestry in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. And said warrant shall express the time, place, and objects of the meeting; shall be directed to one of the Constables of the Town of Dorchester; and shall be served by such officer by posting an attested copy thereof with his notification thereon in two or more conspicuous places within said Town of Dorchester, not less than seven days previous to the time appointed for such meeting. And all warrants issued as aforesaid shall be made returnable to the Wardens or Parish Clerk of said Parish, and all meetings of said Parish shall be organized and conducted in the manner prescribed by law.



*Article Second.*—The Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary's Church shall be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to assemble and take order for the management of the affairs of the Parish, at such time and place as the Wardens may appoint, and written or oral notice, expressing the time and place of such meeting, given upon any Sunday by the Parish Clerk, or by the Minister officiating on such Sunday, shall be deemed to be a sufficient notification of such meeting. And all meetings of the Vestry shall be organized and conducted in the manner provided by law or established usage.

*Article Third.*—This Parish shall, from time to time, take such order for the establishment and support of Public Worship therein as may be determined by said Parish, or by the Vestry acting under authority duly granted thereunto by said Parish.

*Article Fourth.*—The By-Laws of this Parish may be amended or repealed by vote of a majority of the members present at any legal meeting of said Parish, provided the subject matter of such proposed action shall have been duly expressed in the warrant calling such meeting.

On motion, it was *Voted*, that the above Code be ordained and enacted as the By-Laws of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester.

*Voted*, to proceed to elect a Senior and a Junior Warden by separate and successive ballots.

Upon balloting the following gentlemen were declared elected, to wit:

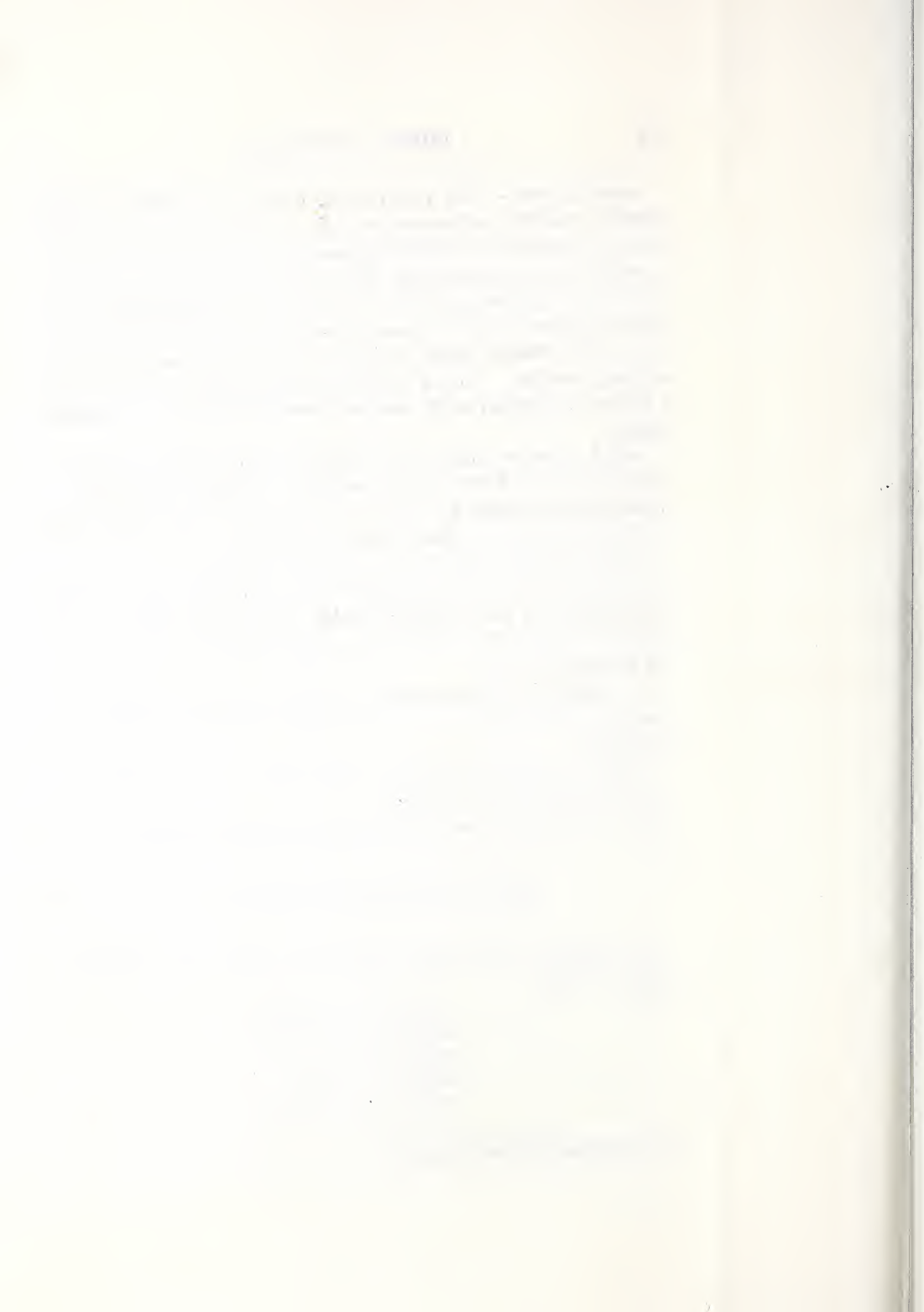
JOSEPH HOOPER, *Senior Warden.*

WILLIAM WITHINGTON, *Junior Warden.*

On motion it was *Voted*, to proceed to elect five Vestrymen. Upon balloting

CHARLES STIMPSON,  
FRANCIS A. FULLER,  
THOMAS HILL,  
HENRY H. PETERS,  
ROBERT RICHARDSON,

were declared elected Vestrymen.



Upon balloting Edward Holden was declared elected Treasurer. It was then, on motion, *Voted*, to proceed to the election of Rector.

Upon balloting, the Rev. George W. Porter was declared to be unanimously elected Rector of the Parish of St. Mary's Church.

It was then, on motion, *Voted*, that a copy of the votes of election, passed under the Sixth Article, be signed by the Wardens, attested by the Parish Clerk, and transmitted to the Rev. Mr. Porter.

*Voted*, that an attested copy of the above votes be transmitted to the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

P. R. Norfolk, ss.

DORCHESTER, Aug. 23, 1847.

Then personally appeared the above named, — Joseph Hooper, William Withington, Charles Stimpson, Francis A. Fuller, Thomas Hill and Robert Richardson, and in open Parish meeting severally took the oaths of the offices to which they had been respectively elected, according to law.

Before me,

EDWARD HOLDEN,

*Parish Clerk.*

1847. Sept. 23. The first Vestry meeting was held at the house of Mr. Robert Richardson. The Rector presided.

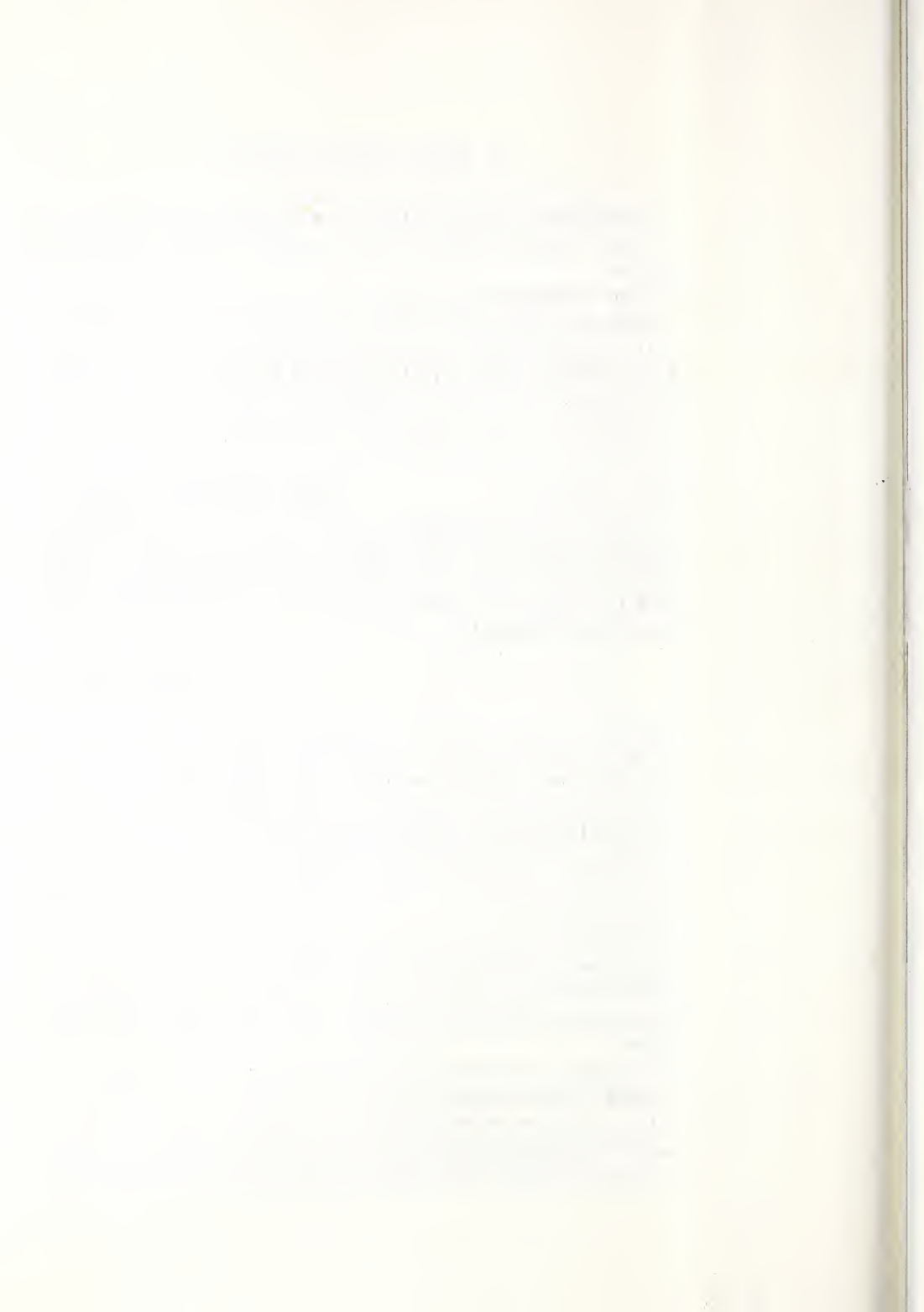
V. R. On motion it was *Voted*, that a committee of two be chosen whose duty it shall be to confer with the Directors of Lyceum Hall, and ascertain upon what terms said hall can be procured for the use of this Parish as a place for Public Worship.

*Voted*, that the Rector and Mr. Robert Richardson constitute such committee.

*Voted*, that a committee of three be appointed to ascertain upon what terms a suitable site can be obtained for the location of a church edifice; and, also to report an estimate of the cost of a commodious and appropriate house of worship for the use of this Parish.

*Voted*, that the Rector and Messrs. Stimpson and Richardson constitute said committee.

It was then, on motion, *Voted*, that the Rector, Wardens, Vestry and Parish Clerk be a committee, whose duty it shall be to represent to the members and friends of the Church, in Dorchester and



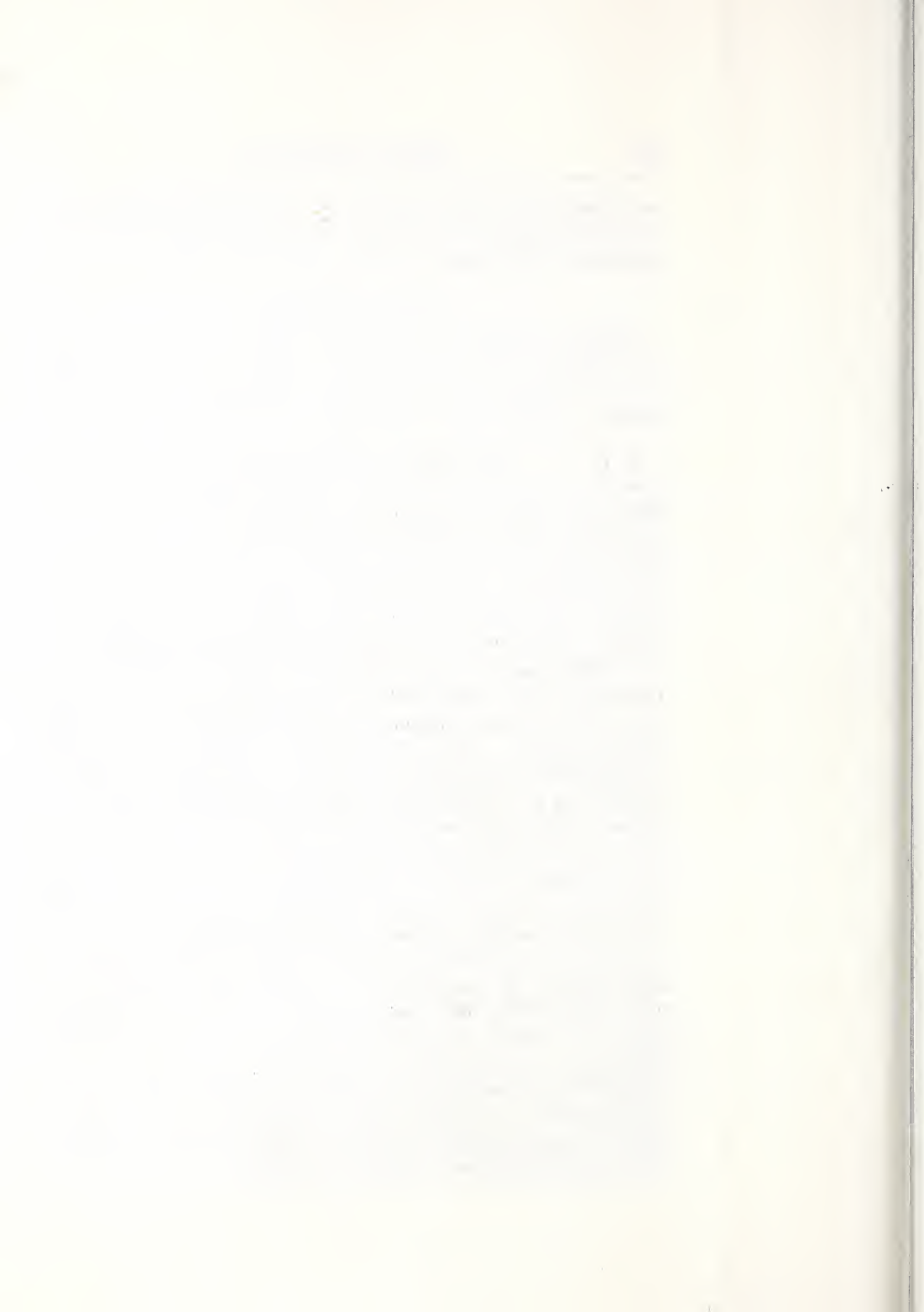


its vicinity, the purpose of this Parish, in the matter of the erection of a church edifice, and to request their co-operation in the accomplishment of the design.

#### PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Notices in Boston newspapers Sept. 23, 24, 1847, stated: "St. Mary's Church, Dorchester. Divine Service, according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, will be held at Lyceum Hall, Dorchester, on Sunday next, Sept. 26."

*V. R.* . . . . Agreeably to notice given as above, Morning Prayer was attended at Lyceum Hall, on the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity, at half-past ten o'clock. The Service of the day, with the Ante-Communion Office, was read by the Rev. George W. Porter, Rector, who also preached a sermon upon Christian Faith and Hope, founded upon the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth verses of the eighth Chapter of the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Romans, and closing with interesting and appropriate references to the establishment and prospects of the Church in the Town of Dorchester. The number of the congregation was twenty; more than three-fourths of whom were supposed to be in communion with the Church. Evening Prayer was attended at three o'clock by a congregation of thirty-two. The Service was read by the Rector, by whom, also, a sermon was preached upon Christian Peace, from the first verse of the fifth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. The undersigned would take occasion to record the fact, that many of the friends of the Church were deterred from attendance upon these first services of St. Mary's Church by reason of the severity of the storm, which continued without cessation during the day. It may also be remarked, in connection with this report, that upon the occasion of the services of this day was the first public use of the surplice within this Town, by a Minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, although the Book of Common Prayer had, before, been publicly used. Evening Prayer was attended at the Town Hall in Dorchester eight times by the Rev. John P. Robinson, and once by the Rev. Darius R. Brewer in 1843, and three times by the Rev. John P. Robinson in 1844; during which time it was deemed inexpedient to organize a Parish.



*V. R.* 1847. Oct. 5, at Vestry meeting, *Voted*, that the Rector be invited to take early action upon the subject of the establishment of a Sunday School within this Parish; and, that he be requested to call a meeting for the organization of such school, at such time as he may judge proper.

*Voted*, that the Ladies connected with the Parish of St. Mary's Church be requested to meet at such time and place as the Rector may appoint, for the purpose of organizing a Sewing Circle for the advancement of the prosperity of this Parish.

*V. R.* 1847. Dec. 5, at Vestry meeting. The Rector having announced the receipt of a donation of twelve copies of Hayter's "Cathedral Chants," from David Clapp, Esq., of Boston, for the use of the choir of St. Mary's Church; it was, on motion,

*Voted*, unanimously, that the thanks of the Vestry be accorded to Mr. Clapp for this valuable and timely expression of his interest in the prosperity of the Church in his native town.

1848. Apr. 2. Vestry meeting. Committee reported that the organ leased from E. & G. Hook at \$60.00 per annum, had been placed in Lyceum Hall for the use of the Parish.

*P. R.* 1848. Parish meeting. To Peter Blake, one of the Constables of the Town of Dorchester:—

GREETING.—In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the qualified voters of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, to meet at Lyceum Hall, in said town, on Easter Monday, the twenty-fourth day of April, current, at seven of the clock, in the afternoon, to act upon the following Articles, to wit:

*First.*—To choose a Moderator.

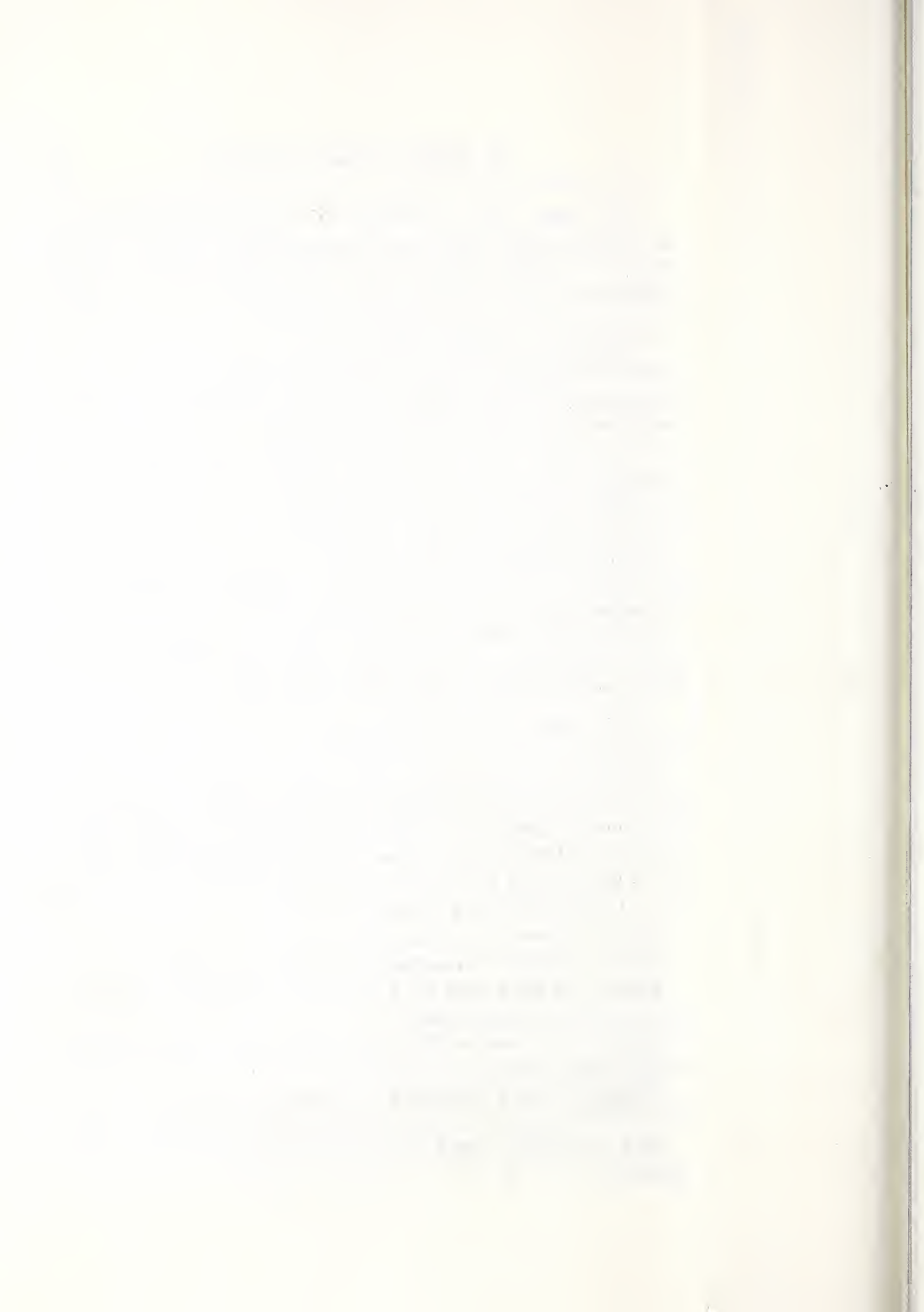
*Second.*—To elect Parish Officers for the year ensuing.

*Third.*—To know what order the Parish will adopt in relation to the location of a church edifice.

*Fourth.*—To know whether the Parish will procure or erect a church edifice during the current year.

*Fifth.*—To know whether the Parish will amend so much of their By-Laws as relates to the qualification of voters thereof.

*Sixth.*—To know whether the Parish will further amend their By-Laws.



*Seventh.*—To know what sum of money the Parish will raise for the year ensuing, and how the same shall be appropriated.

Hereof fail not, and make return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Parish Clerk, at the time and place above mentioned.

Given under our hands, at Dorchester, aforesaid, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

JOSEPH HOOPER,  
WILLIAM WITHINGTON,  
*Wardens.*

*P. R.* At a legal meeting of the qualified voters of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester, held pursuant to the above Warrant at Lyceum Hall, in Dorchester, on Easter Monday, April 24, A. D., 1848:—

Upon the first Article of the Warrant, the Clerk called for, received, and counted the ballots of the members for Moderator, whereupon

The Rev. George W. Porter was declared elected Moderator.

Then upon separate and successive ballots the following officers were declared elected:

JOSEPH HOOPER,	JOHN C. CLAPP,— <i>Wardens.</i>
WILLIAM WITHINGTON,	ROBERT RICHARDSON,
CHARLES STIMPSON,	WILLIAM ELLIOTT,
THOMAS HILL,	EDWARD HOLDEN,
	<i>Vestrymen.</i>

EDWARD HOLDEN, *Treasurer.*

JOSEPH HOOPER,	JOHN P. CLAPP,— <i>Assessors.</i>
EDWARD HOLDEN,	<i>Collector.</i>

*V. R.* 1848. May 9. Vestry meeting. Committee reported that the proprietors of the Kelton farm offered to convey to the Parish 10,000 feet of land, provided a suitable church edifice be erected thereon, to cost not less than \$5,000.00, and to be the only structure erected thereon.

1848. June 18. Vestry meeting. The Parish Clerk reported that the petition of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester,



for admission into union with the Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts, was presented to that body on the fourteenth day of June, current; whereupon the said Parish was, by vote of said Convention, admitted into union therewith.

1848. July 9. Vestry meeting. The Committee on Real Estate reported progress. On motion, it was

*Voted*, that the Vestry present to the Selectmen of the Town of Dorchester, a petition for the insertion of an Article in the next Warrant they shall issue, calling a meeting of the inhabitants of said Town:—the said Article to be, in substance, as follows:

To know if the Town will grant to the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, a suitable lot of land upon Meeting House Hill, to be appropriated as a site for a Church edifice for said Parish.

V. R. Nov. 2. Vestry meeting. The Rector announced that having received information that a lot of land, upon the southwardly side of Bowdoin Street, and near the head of Green Street, in Dorchester, had been designated by the Parish of St. Mary's Church, at an informal meeting thereof, as a site for a church edifice for said Parish, a deed of said lot, consisting of half an acre of land, had been generously presented by Mrs. Catherine Dodge, of Boston, to the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, as a site for a church edifice for said Parish, so long as said Parish shall maintain canonical union with the Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts, and with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Whereupon it was, on motion, *Voted*, that said deed be accepted.

*Resolved*, unanimously, that the thanks of the Wardens and Vestry, in behalf of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, be respectfully tendered to Mrs. Dodge, for the truly generous act of Christian benevolence above recorded, and that this act, with the testimony of our gratitude therefore, be spread upon the Records of the Vestry.

*Voted*, that an attested copy of the above Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Dodge, and that the same be published in the "Christian Witness and Church Advocate."





*V. R.*

BOSTON, Oct. 24th, 1848.

*To the Parish of St. Mary's Church :*

With this, your Rector will present you from me, for your acceptance, the title to a piece of land on Bowdoin Street, Dorchester, which I hereby give to you as the site of your contemplated church.

In connection with this gift, you will allow me to express the earnest hope that you will without delay cordially and faithfully co-operate with your Rector in such steps for the immediate commencement of your contemplated church as shall upon conference with him be deemed advisable.

I would further add that, if the preliminary steps towards building are at once taken, and the enterprise diligently prosecuted according to the means of the Parish, I shall be happy to contribute still further towards the realization of your wishes. I feel that the present is the moment the good work should be begun, and I cannot doubt that within six months you will have ready a beautiful and appropriate temple free from debt, to be consecrated to the divine purposes of our holy religion.

Very respectfully,

CATHERINE DODGE.

*To the Parish of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester.*

It has been said that this Mrs. Catherine Dodge kept a small store in the North End of Boston, and earned a livelihood by making and mending clothes for sailors, and that it was out of these earnings that she was able to purchase the land which she afterwards gave for St. Mary's Church.

Mr. John H. Welch, Mr. John P. Clapp, and the Rev. Geo. W. Porter were elected the Building Committee.

*V. R.* Nov. 9. Vestry Meeting. *Voted*, That the plan by Arthur Gilman, of Boston, of St. James's Church, in Amesbury, erected in the year eight hundred and forty-six, be adopted as the plan of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester; subject only to such modification, within the rules of the style, as may be agreed upon by and between the Building Committee and the architect, pro-



vided the cost of the enclosure and improvement of the grounds, and the erection and furnishing of the church edifice, shall not exceed the sum of four thousand dollars.

*V. R.* 1849. Feb. 4. Vestry Meeting. The Clerk announced that he had been desired by John H. Blake, Esq., of Boston, to ask permission of the Vestry to erect a marble tablet within the contemplated church edifice of this Parish, inscribed to the memory of the late Rev. James Blake Howe, a native of the Town of Dorchester, and for many years a Presbyter of the Diocese of New Hampshire. Whereupon it was

*Voted*, unanimously, that permission be cordially granted.

*V. R.* March 4. Vestry Meeting. On motion, it was

*Voted*, unanimously, that the thanks of the Vestry, on behalf of this Parish, be tendered to Mrs. Elijah Loring, of Boston, for the generous donation made by her of fifty dollars, to be appropriated to the purchase of a service of plate for the altar of St. Mary's Church.

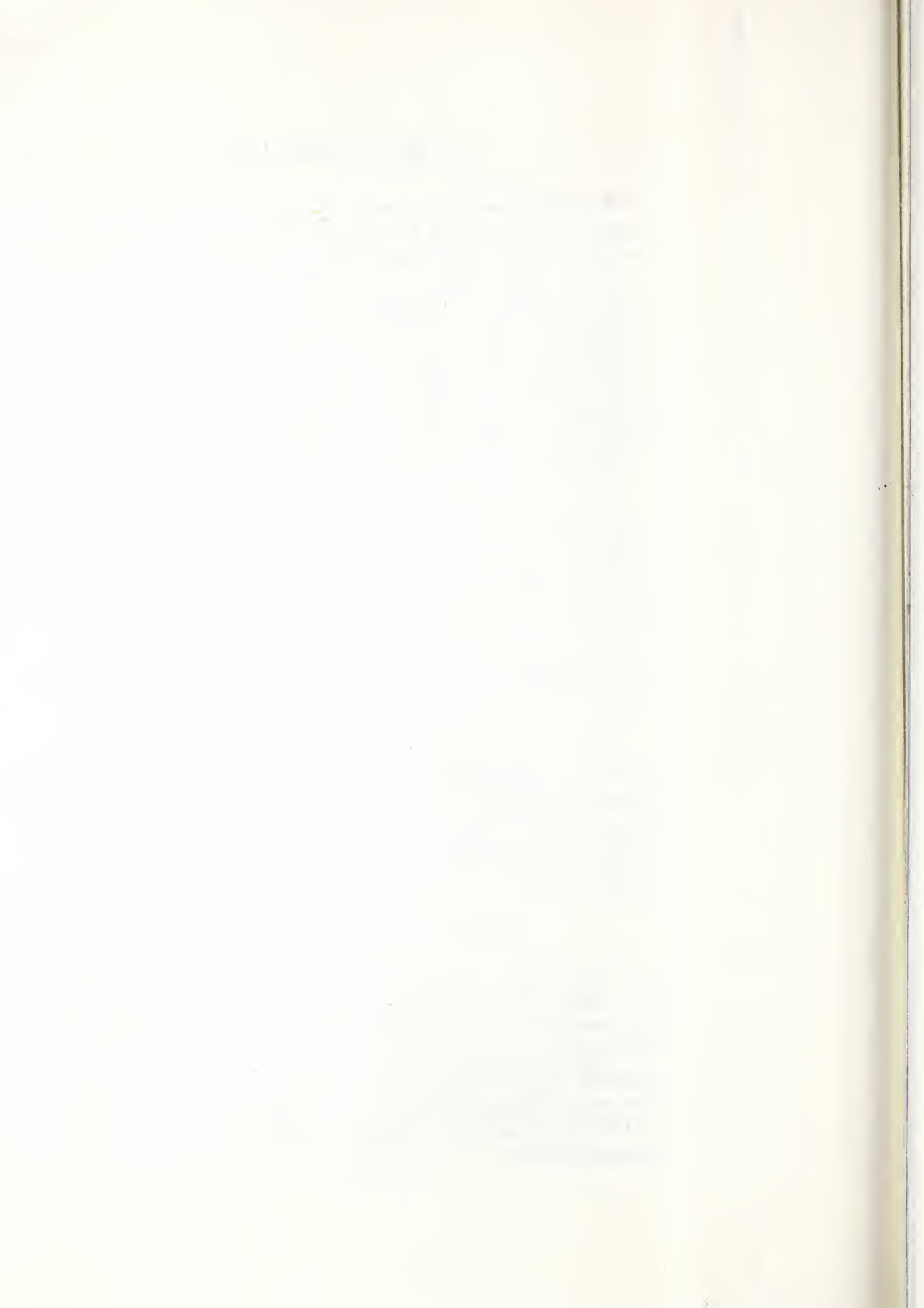
*V. R.* 1849. March 12. A letter from the Rector announced his intention of taking a journey, and that "on my return I am expecting to enter upon the relation and duties of married life."

1849. Thursday, April 5, the corner stone of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, was laid by the Right Rev. Manton Eastburn, Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts. In the Vestry Records will be found a long list of articles deposited in a copper box which was placed in a cavity in the north-east corner stone.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH.

*V. R.* 1849. Sept. 20. Pursuant to an appointment made by the Right Rev., the Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts, the house of worship erected by the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, was consecrated by the Bishop on Thursday, the twentieth day of September inst, according to the Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

The Instrument of Donation was read, expressed in the words following, to wit:



We, the Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Mary's Church, in the Town of Dorchester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, having, by the good providence of Almighty God, erected in said Town a house of public worship, do hereby appropriate and devote the same to the worship and service of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, according to the provisions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, in its Ministry, Doctrines, Liturgy, Rites, and Usages, and by a congregation in communion with said Church, and in union with the Convention thereof in the Diocese of Massachusetts.

And we do hereby request the Right Rev. Manton Eastburn, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts, to consecrate the said building by the name of St. Mary's Church, and thereby separate it from all unhallowed, worldly and common uses, and solemnly dedicate it to the holy purposes above mentioned.

And we do, moreover hereby relinquish all claim to any right of using the same building, or allowing the use of it, in any way inconsistent with the terms and true meaning of this Instrument of Donation, and with the consecration hereby requested of the Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

In testimony whereof, we, the said Church Wardens and Vestrymen, have hereunto affixed our signatures and the seal of our Corporation, on this twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

J. P. CLAPP,

JOHN H. WELCH, — *Wardens.*

JOSEPH HOOPER,

HENRY H. PETERS,

CHARLES STIMPSON,

ROBT. RICHARDSON,

CHAS. EMERY,

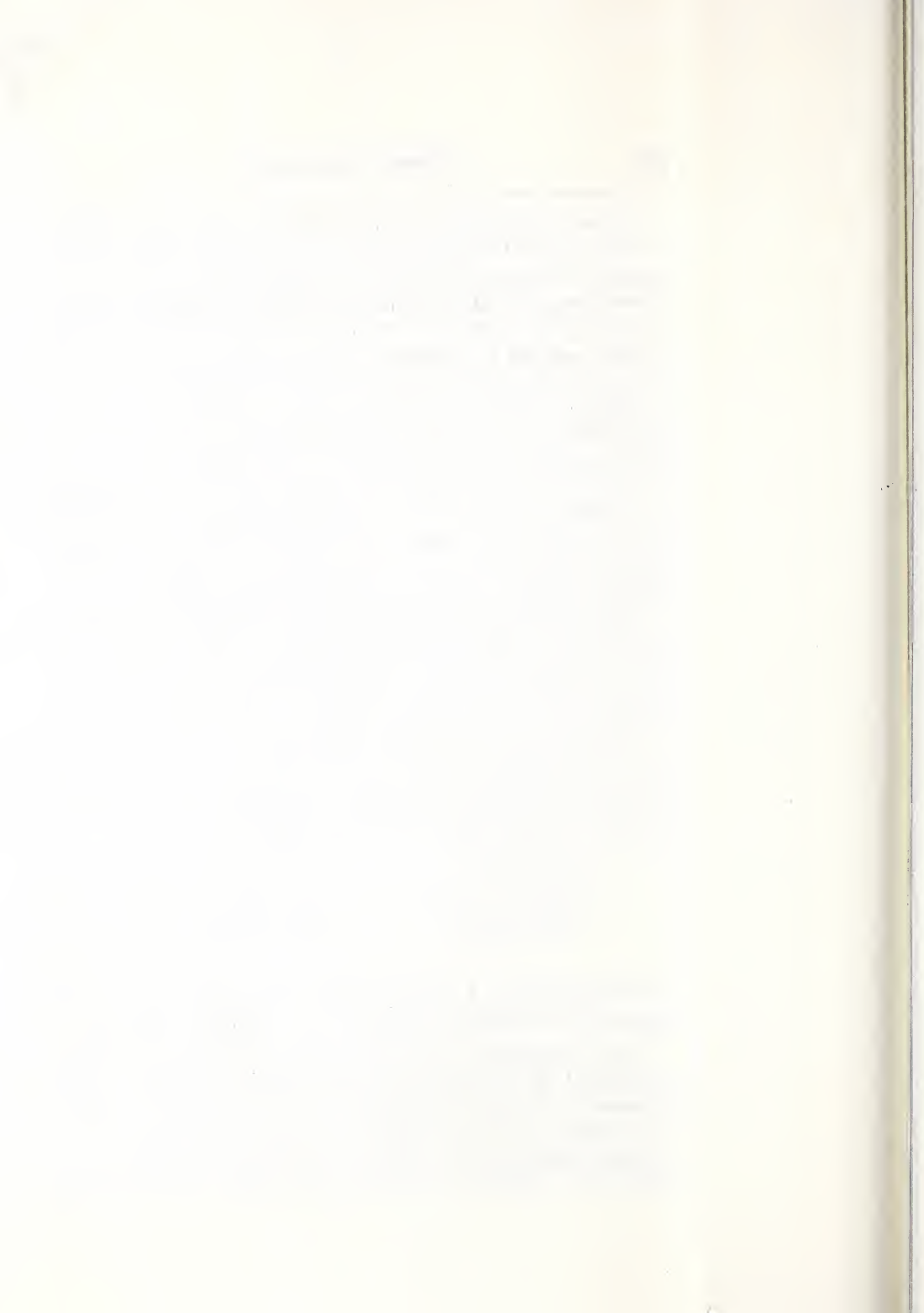
EDWARD HOLDEN,

*Vestrymen.*

The Sentence of Consecration was pronounced by the Right Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, Manton Eastburn.

*V. R.* On motion, it was *Voted*, that the thanks of the Vestry, on behalf of the Parish, be respectfully tendered to Miss Elizabeth Codman for the gift of twenty-five dollars, to be appropriated to the purchase of a service of plate for the Communion Table.

It was *Voted*, that the thanks of the Vestry, on behalf of the Parish, be respectfully tendered to Mrs. Mary Codman for the





donation of twenty-five dollars, to be appropriated to the purchase of a service of plate for the Communion Table.

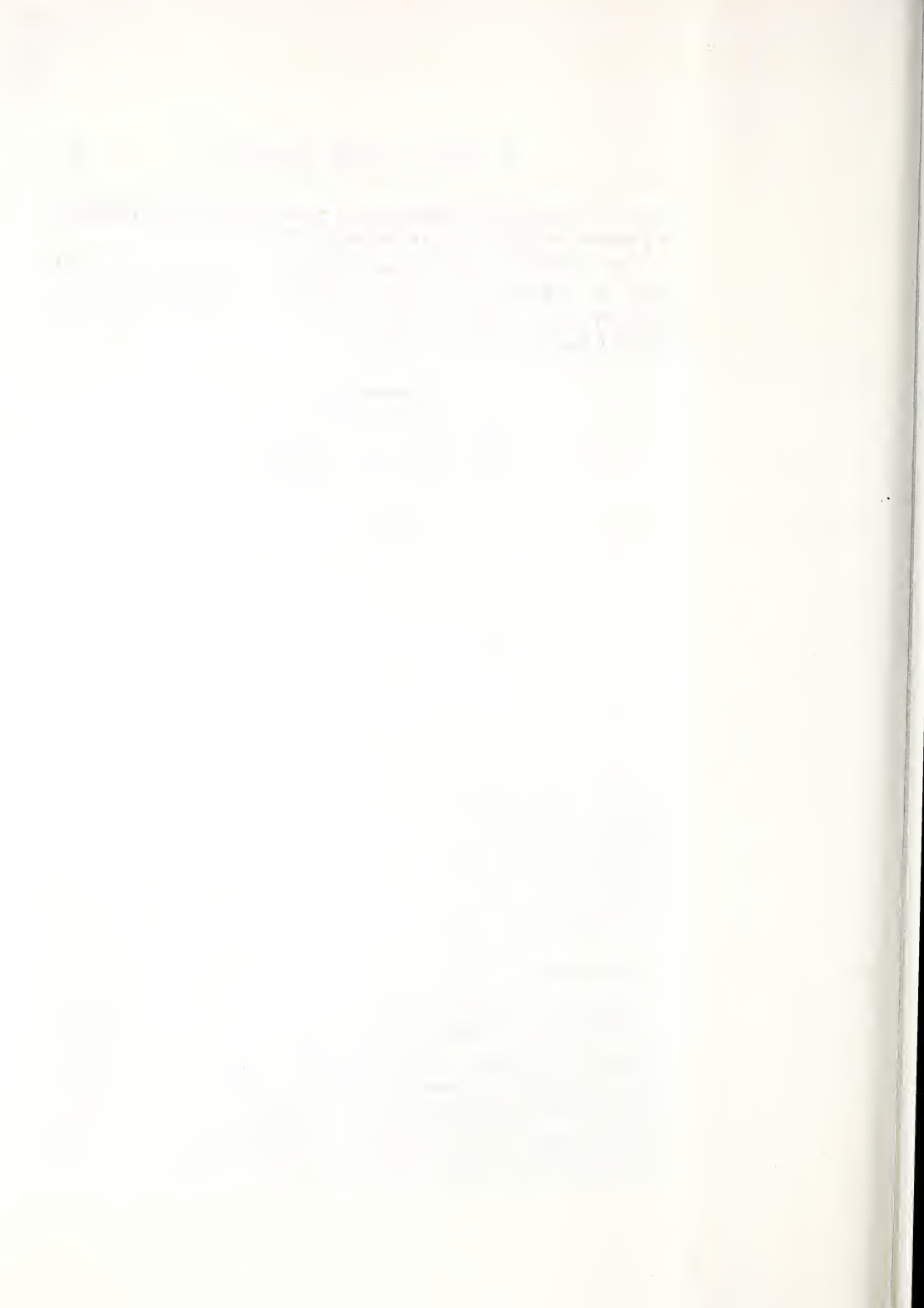
*V. R.* The Parish Clerk reported that, pursuant to a vote passed upon the request of Mr. John H. Blake, on the fourth day of February last, a marble tablet had been erected by him in St. Mary's Church, inscribed as follows : —

IN MEMORY OF THE  
REV. JAMES BLAKE HOWE,  
BORN IN DORCHESTER, MAR. 31, 1772.  
GRADUATED AT HARVARD UNIV. 1794.  
ORDAINED DEACON, NOV. 25, 1817.  
AND PRIEST MAY 4, 1819.  
BY THE  
RT. REV. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D.  
BISHOP OF THE EASTERN DIOCESE.  
INSTITUTED RECTOR OF UNION CHURCH  
IN CLAREMONT, N. H., SEPT. 15, 1819  
WHERE HE FAITHFULLY DISCHARGED  
THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE, FOR MORE  
THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY.  
DIED SEPT. 17, 1844.  
HIS REMAINS REPOSE WITH THOSE OF HIS KINDRED  
IN THE OLD BURIAL GROUND  
IN DORCHESTER.

*V. R.* 1850. Mar. 21. Vestry Meeting. Account of Building Committee, duly audited, was accepted, showing total cost of building, \$4,932.67, of which \$1,797 was given by various persons, through the Rev. G. W. Porter, and \$600 advanced by the Ladies' Sewing Circle; the rest, mostly for the purchase of pews, by various persons, in sums from \$215 down.

The following Resolve was presented by the Junior Warden : —

"*Whereas*, A chaste and beautiful gothic structure has been erected for the accommodation of the worshippers in St. Mary's Parish, in Dorchester : We, the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Church, believing it (under the smiles of a benignant Providence) owing mainly to the influence and exertions of our beloved Rector, the Rev. George W. Porter, that our undertaking has been brought to so speedy and happy a termination, and wishing to convey to



him our appreciation of his self-denying and untiring zeal in our behalf : —

*“Resolved*, That the Clerk be, and he is hereby, instructed to transmit to him our hearty thanks, in behalf of the Parish, and that the same be placed upon the Records.”

*Voted*, unanimously, that the above Resolve pass.

1850. Feb. 6. An organ was erected in the church by E. & G. G. Hook, at a cost of \$1,200, — \$300 cash and \$300 in one, two and three years.

*V. R.* 1850. April 18. Vestry Meeting. The Parish Clerk reported that on Sunday, the seventh instant, the Rev. G. W. Porter was instituted Rector of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts. . . .

#### RESIGNATION OF RECTOR.

*V. R.* 1852. Nov. 7. Vestry Meeting. The meeting was called to order by the Senior Warden. A letter from the Rector, the Rev. G. W. Porter, was then read, tendering his resignation as Rector of St. Mary's Church.

On motion, it was *Voted*, that for reasons set forth in said letter, his resignation be accepted.

*Voted*, that the Wardens be a committee to reply to said letter in suitable terms.

*V. R.* 1853. May 15. On motion, *Voted*, that the Treasurer be authorized to purchase from the Rev. G. W. Porter the Communion Service which has heretofore been used by the Church.

*V. R.* 1853. May 25. Vestry Meeting. . . . The committee appointed to supply the pulpit and to procure a Rector, reported that they had conferred with the Rev. Mr. Drown on the subject of filling that station, and had proposed to him a salary of seven hundred dollars per annum. . . .

*V. R.* After the meetings above referred to, a further correspondence between the committee and Mr. Drown was continued, which resulted in Mr. Drown's acceptance of the Rectorship of this





THE REV. EDWARD L. DROWN.



Church, and his salary was fixed at eight hundred dollars per annum, to commence on 1st day of July, 1853. Mr. Drown's letter of acceptance is on file.

#### ENLARGEMENT OF CHURCH.

*P. R.* 1856. June 24. Parish meeting. The second article of the warrant having been read it was

*Voted*, That it is expedient to enlarge the church edifice as recommended by the Vestry in the second article of the warrant, and that the Wardens and Vestry be entrusted with this duty, and that the sum of three thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Wardens and Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary's Church be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to raise, by mortgage of the church property or otherwise, a sum not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars, for the purpose of making the addition to the church edifice as recommended by the Vestry, and that the Treasurer be authorized to execute the necessary deed or deeds and note or notes in behalf of the Parish for that purpose. On motion the meeting was dissolved.

*V. R.* June 26. Vestry Meeting. *Voted*, To proceed to choice of a Building Committee for enlarging the church edifice. Messrs. Jenkins, Coffin and Bradford were chosen with full powers to carry out the purposed enlargement and repairs of the church edifice.

*V. R.* August 4. Building Committee reported that they had made a contract with Mr. Bartlett to enlarge and alter the church edifice for the sum of twenty-three hundred and fifty dollars.

The committee appointed July 9, 1855, to confer with the Rev. Mr. Porter respecting the money donated to the Church for the purchase of a Communion Service, and to obtain the same, reported 1856, Nov. 10, at Vestry Meeting.

*V. R.* They have completed the duty assigned to them, and are ready to deliver to the Parish the Communion Service. The committee, in making their report, deem it proper to state the circumstances that have so long delayed the purchase.

The sum of \$150 had been contributed in the year 1849 for the purchase of a Communion Service for St. Mary's Church, and the



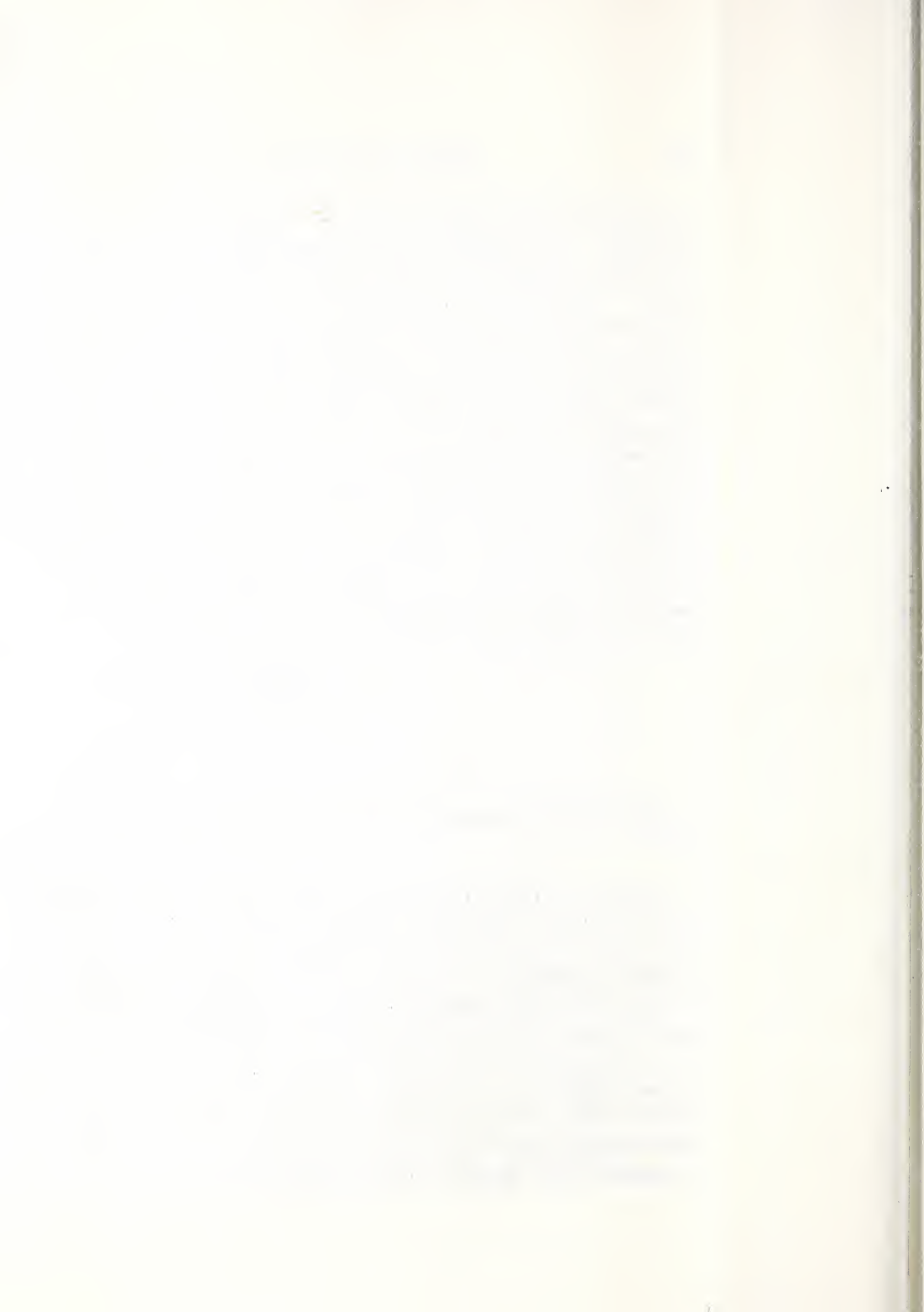


funds placed in the hands of the Rev. Geo. W. Porter to be put at interest. Your committee, soon after this appointment, requested Mr. Porter to transfer the funds, that they might effect the purchase. He refused to do so, alleging that the conditions attached to the donations required the sum of \$500 to be raised and that he should be the purchaser. . . . The committee showed to Mr. Porter that a Service every way suited to the wants of St. Mary's Church could be purchased for \$300 or less, and urged him by persuasion and argument, by letter and in personal interviews, to unite with the committee in the purchase of such Service, but he was inflexible, and there was no way in which the committee could compel him to relinquish the funds but by meeting him on his own ground. Accordingly, a number of gentlemen volunteered to advance a sum sufficient to make up the amount of \$500, and a formal tender was made to Mr. Porter by Mr. Cobb, who subsequently met him in New York, and they jointly purchased a Service for \$500, Mr. Porter paying \$204, Mr. Cobb paying \$296. . . .

MARTIN L. BRADFORD,  
MOSES G. COBB,  
N. W. COFFIN,  
*Committee.*

This Service was not put into use in the Church till June, 1860.

On July 12, 1857, among those confirmed at the afternoon Service, by the Right Rev. Manton Eastburn, we find on the Parish Record the name "Mr. Phillips Brooks." It is needless, perhaps, to add that this Mr. Brooks afterwards became one of the greatest of American preachers and the sixth Bishop of Massachusetts. Phillips Brooks, at this time, was an attendant at St. Paul's Church, Boston, and whether he was confirmed at St. Mary's for some special reason, or what is likely, because of the influence of his aunt, Mrs. John Phillips, who lived at this time in Dorchester, and was a member of St. Mary's, it is impossible to state.



RESIGNATION OF RECTOR.

V. R. 1860. July 2.

PROVIDENCE, July 2, 1860.

*To the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Church,  
Dorchester, Mass.:*

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith resign the Rectorship of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester. It is my desire, if agreeable to the Vestry, that this resignation shall take effect on and after the first Sunday in September.

My dear friends, I cannot tell you how great has been the trial thus to sunder the ties which for seven years have bound us in the close and endearing relation of pastor and people. All my ministry thus far has been passed in your midst, and I am confident that neither time nor distance can destroy my affection for my first Parish. I leave a Parish where God has vouchsafed to bless my labors. I leave friends long known and well known, friends endeared to me by mutual experiences of joy and sorrow. I could not bear the trials of separation were I not sustained by the firm conviction that God by His providence has called me to another field of labor. I have not dared to disobey the call. I rejoice, Brethren, that I leave St. Mary's in the midst of its brightest prosperity. I rejoice that I leave you a united people, disturbed by no envyings or dissensions, striving together with one heart for the Faith once delivered to the saints. May God continue to bless you. May He bless you in your Parish, bless you in your families, bless you in your own souls.

For all your kindness to me and mine the Lord reward you a hundred fold, and thus, loving you as I know I am loved, I remain your friend and Brother in the Church,

EDW. E. DROWN.

Messrs. J. P. CLAPP,  
M. L. BRADFORD, — *Wardens.*  
DANIEL SHARP, *Clerk.*  
C. H. STIMPSON,  
N. W. COFFIN and others, — *Vestrymen.*



DORCHESTER, 14th July, 1860.

*Rev. and Dear Sir :*

We, the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Church, have received the letter conveying a resignation of your Rectorship. Learning, as we do from this letter and from conversation with you, that you are convinced that God, by His providence, has called you to another field of labor, we feel it our duty to accept your resignation.

This duty is the most painful of any the Vestry has had to perform during your Rectorship of seven years. We cannot express to you in a letter the sorrow of our hearts at this separation. In bidding you farewell, we congratulate your new Parish on the acquisition of a Pastor so well fitted for his sacred office ; may your ministry be blessed to them as it has been to us.

You found us weak, you leave us strong ; more willing to work for that Master to whose example you have so constantly and so eloquently pointed us. We thank you in the name of the Parish for your unwavering fidelity to us ; we thank God for having permitted you to stay with us so long ; seven years is no very long period, it is true, but seven years of untiring devotion to a struggling Parish on the one hand, and seven years of firm and increasing love for a Pastor on the other, is long enough to leave lasting effects to all united by such ties. We shall never forget those years as long as the walls of our little church resound with the words of our noble Liturgy, as long as the Faith once delivered to the saints is preached from its pulpit ; we shall look back to those days when you ministered the altar, and pray that the continual dew of God's blessing may be poured upon you.

Farewell, dear sir. May God endue plenteously both you and yours with heavenly gifts, grant you in health and prosperity long to live, and finally, after this life, to attain everlasting joy and felicity, — is the prayer of your hearty friends,

THE WARDENS AND VESTRY  
OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DORCHESTER.

To the Rev. Edward L. Drown,  
Rector of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester.





ELECTION OF RECTOR.

*P. R.* 1860. August 15. Special Parish Meeting. On balloting for a Rector, Rev. William H. Mills was declared unanimously elected Rector of St. Mary's Church.

*V. R.* 1860. Sept. 3. Vestry Meeting. The Clerk read a letter from Rev. William H. Mills, dated August 21, 1860, accepting the Rectorship of St. Mary's Church immediately on its becoming vacant.

*V. R.* 1863. May 4. Vestry Meeting. Mr. E. P. Tileston reported to the meeting, that having been informed that the agent having control of the land lying next the church had an opportunity to dispose of the same to some persons whose intention was to erect thereon a Roman Catholic church, and not having time to call a meeting, he had taken the responsibility of purchasing the same, and the following paper having been presented to some of the gentlemen of the Parish, these names and amounts have been obtained, viz:

We, the subscribers, agree to pay the sums affixed to our names, for the purchase of the lot of land adjoining St. Mary's Church, to be presented by us to the Parish. Signed,

E. P. Tileston,	\$100.00	A. H. Stevens,	\$50.00
Samuel Gilbert, Sr.,	100.00	Wm. W. Page,	50.00
Martin L. Bradford,	100.00	D. B. Stedman,	50.00
Henry J. Gardner,	100.00	Shelton Barry,	50.00
Henry A. Rice,	100.00	T. D. Quincy,	25.00
R. W. Robinson,	100.00	Chas. Emery,	25.00
Nathaniel Phillips,	50.00		
			<hr/> \$900.00

Amounting to nine hundred dollars, and leaving four hundred and eighty-nine and 60-100 dollars short of the amount required to pay for the land, \$1,389.60.

On motion of Samuel Gilbert, Sr., it was

*Voted,* To appropriate the sum of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) from the proceeds of the "Easter Offering" towards paying for the land purchased by Mr. E. P. Tileston in the name of the Church, Messrs. Tileston and Gilbert offering to assume the balance still deficient.



Among those confirmed at St. Mary's by Bishop Eastburn, October 4, 1863, we find the name of Peter Henry Steenstra, Minister of the Baptist Society, corner of Stoughton and Sumner Streets. Dr. Steenstra, is now, as he has been for several years, Professor of the Literature and Interpretation of the Old Testament, at the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge.

*V. R.* 1864. Feb. 13. Vestry Meeting. On motion of Charles Stimpson it was

*Voted*, That in the opinion of the Vestry the necessity exists of building a new church on the present Church lands.

*Voted*, that a committee of five be chosen by ballot to enquire into the expediency of building a new church.

*V. R.* 1864. March 26. The committee appointed February 13th, "To enquire into the expediency of building a new church," reported at considerable length, in substance, that "to build a new church would require a sum of money much beyond the means of the Parish;" and while they did not desire to discourage the idea of building, they felt the principal object was to obtain an increase of accommodation, and that that end could be reached with greater ease and certainty by an addition to the present building. They would, therefore, recommend the Parish to pass votes authorizing the Wardens and Vestry for the year ensuing to incur an expense of not more than two hundred dollars, for the purpose of procuring plans and specifications for this enlargement, to appropriate money for the same, and to appoint a committee to carry these votes into effect.

In the year 1865 unusual interest was manifested in a plan for building a new church. Mr. Charles Spear offered to give \$5,000 for this object. Others made large subscriptions. The plan was to build a church costing about \$50,000. Governor Gardner, a member of the Parish, suggested purchasing a site for the new church at the corner of Stoughton and Pleasant streets. Many meetings of the Vestry were held to consider the feasibility of the plan, but it was finally





OLD ST. MARY'S.



decided that it would be the wisest course to enlarge the old church, which could be done at very much less cost.

*P. R.* 1866. Feb. 5. The committee appointed at the meeting of Dec. 11, 1865, to take into consideration the subject of plans, finance, etc., for the enlargement of the church, reported: That they had procured satisfactory plans from an architect of our own town, Mr. George Ropes, Jr., which proposed to add east and west transepts, nearly doubling its present capacity, increasing its sittings by 330, distributed in 46 large pews and 25 smaller ones; to add a more spacious and convenient chancel; to finish the basement under transepts and chancel for a chapel and Sunday school rooms; to erect a small tower on the north-east corner, affording ample room for a vestibule and a place for a bell. The whole cost of this enlargement, at the highest estimate, will be \$16,000. The transepts and chancel will cost \$12,500; the basement rooms \$2,000, and the tower \$1,500. The committee would respectfully advise that the enlargement be proceeded with only as far as the funds will allow.

*Voted*, that a Building Committee be appointed, who shall proceed to procure full working plans of the east end of the building, without basement, so soon as the Finance Committee have raised the sum of \$12,500; and so soon as they shall have raised the additional amount of \$2,000 required to finish the basement, to procure working plans for its completion also.

*Building Committee.* — Samuel Gilbert, Jr., Charles Spear, John P. Townsend, Nathaniel Phillips, C. Ellery Stedman, and the Rev. William H. Mills, *ex officio*.

*P. R.* 1867. Feb. 18. The whole cost of the work performed upon the church and grounds, exclusive of gifts, and inclusive of the cost of additional land, has been \$17,700.90.

*V. R.* 1867. March 10. Vestry Meeting. The committee, appointed at the Parish meeting of the 18th of February as a Financial Committee, reported that they consider it expedient, before giving a mortgage upon the Church property, to redeem the bonds which have been placed, amounting to \$3,400. This amount, together with the balance due on construction account and the amount



# THE HISTORY OF THE

REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY

JOHN F. JOHNSON

NEW YORK

1911

which will be due April 1st for the general Parish expenses over and above the amount collectable, will require the sum of \$7,000.00. The \$7,000.00 was afterward raised by mortgage to meet the need.

#### MISSION AT THE MILLS.

*V. R.* 1868. May 4. *Voted*, To take up the subject of the Mission at "the Mills," and Mr. G. T. Stoddard, by request, gave an account of the success of the Mission, and urged its claims to an appropriation by the Vestry.

This Mission came in time to be the very beautiful and flourishing Church of All Saints, Ashmont. An account of the early history of that Parish and of the connection of the Rev. Mr. Mills therewith, and a brief sketch of his own rectorship, will be found in a letter written in 1880, to the Rev. Mr. Saltonstall, and printed on page 72, following.

1869. Sept. 8. The Church tower was blown down in a heavy gale. It was not rebuilt.

#### A PASTORAL LETTER.

TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. MARY'S :

*Dearly Beloved Brethren*, — The Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Parish have unanimously requested the Rector to appropriate, for the ensuing year, all offerings, except the Communion Alms, to the payment of the debt on the church; and to receive the offerings for this object on every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month.

By the plan proposed, every parishioner is supposed to set apart every week, for the debt on the church, as much as in the fear of God he thinks he ought, and then, on Sunday, offer the same in the Lord's house. No pledge of any particular sum per week is asked, as the amount of each one's offering is left to his own sense of Christian duty and benevolence.

Your Rector, after much prayerful consideration, has given his consent to this request of the Wardens and Vestry. Some of you will, doubtless, very reluctantly withdraw your offerings from the



objects to which they have been hitherto devoted, and appropriate them all to your own Parish. But none of you can feel a greater reluctance, and, I may say, a greater fear and trembling, than your Rector, in entering upon this plan, even as a temporary expedient. There seems, however, to be no better course open to us. Therefore I implore you to concentrate upon the debt on the church your power of giving, and remove this cause of embarrassment, that we may at the very earliest moment return to our charities.

The amount of your offerings has been about \$2,500 per annum. Unless this amount *at least* shall be received the ensuing year, we may well account the plan to have been a failure.

The offerings on the card distributed at Advent are withdrawn after Sunday, May 15th. The offerings for the debt on the church will be commenced on Sunday, May 22d.

This letter has been prepared after consultation with Mr. W. W. Page and Mr. Daniel Sharp, the committee appointed by the Vestry to carry out their vote.

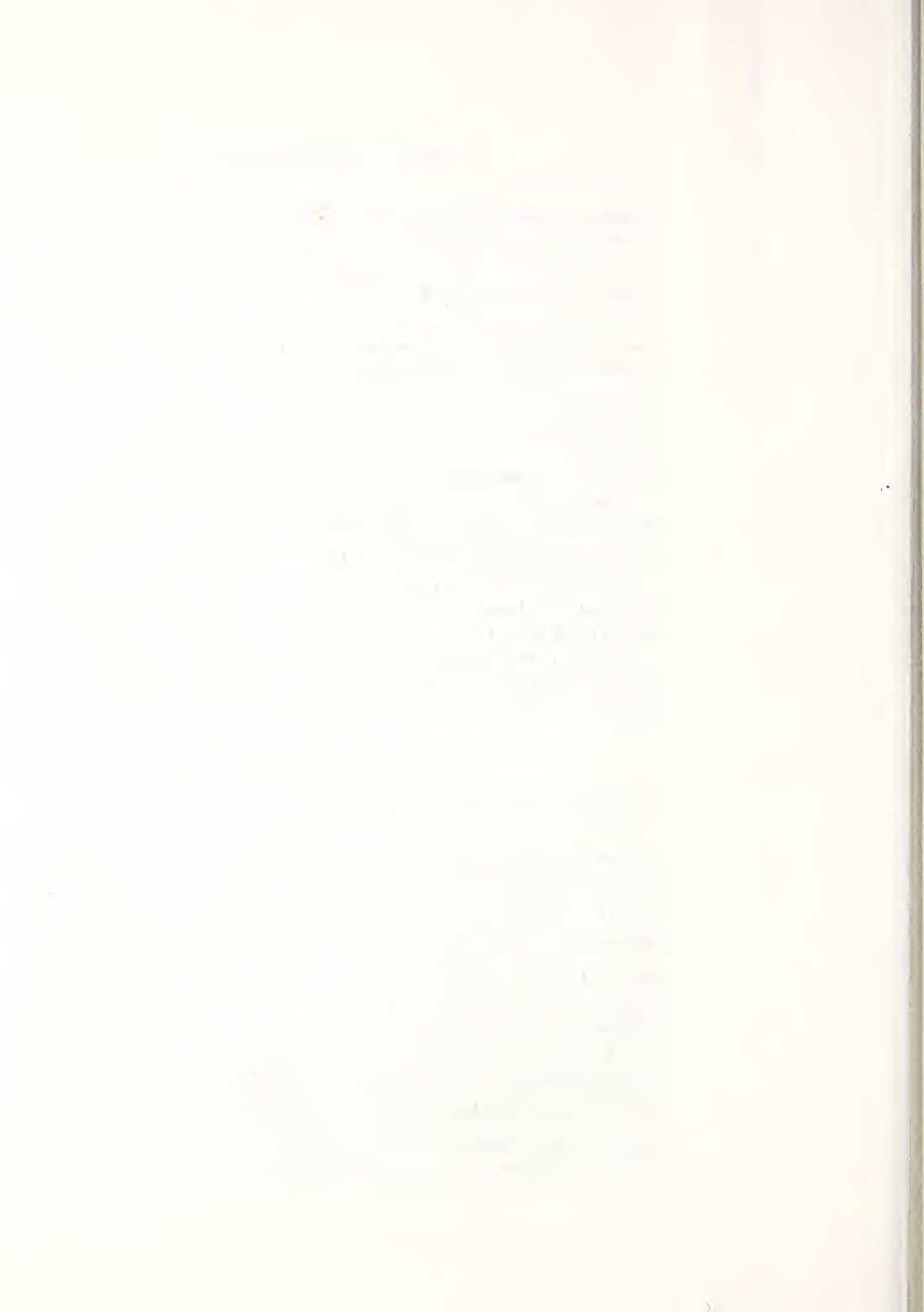
May God not withhold His blessing from the undertaking now proposed, but grant us by His Spirit a right judgment in all things pertaining to the Church of His dear Son.

Your affectionate Pastor,

WM. H. MILLS.

ST. MARK'S DAY, April 25th, 1870.

It was during the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Mills that the Dakota League, the parent of the present Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, first became known. Mrs. Burnham, one of St. Mary's most faithful workers at this time, writes: "The first missionary boxes of the Dakota League were packed in St. Mary's Church. Mr. Mills's interest in the League was great, and he brought Dr. J. Lloyd Breck to St. Mary's on a week-day evening to talk to the parishioners, and to try and interest them in Indian Missions. Paul Mazakute, the first beneficiary of the League, and the first Dakota Indian Presbyterian of our Church, gave his first address on coming to the east in 1868 in St. Mary's



—an address interpreted by his self-sacrificing and most devoted teacher, the Rev. S. D. Hinman; it was a sermon of great power and made an impression for the work of Indian Missions, which several of the members of St. Mary's must remember to this day."

#### GROWTH OF THE MISSION AT MILTON.

*(Dorchester Lower Mills.)*

*V. R.* 1871. Feb. 7. The Rector spoke briefly concerning the increased interest manifested at Milton in the services held there, and the prospect of an early purchase of land for the site of a church. . . .

April 4. Vestry Meeting. There was received a deed dated March 6, 1871, from Asaph Churchill to William H. Mills, Rector of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, and his successors in that office, of 28,150 feet of land. . . .

*V. R.* 1871. Nov. 7. Vestry Meeting. The Rector's plan for raising money for a Chapel at the Lower Mills was read by the Junior Warden. . . .

*Voted*, That the Treasurer be, and is instructed to sign, in behalf of the Parish, a receipt in the following form, to wit:—

"Received of the Trustees of Donations the sum of twelve hundred dollars, which the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, by the wish of said Trustees, undertakes to apply to the building of an Episcopal Church at the Lower Mills in Dorchester, upon land now held by the Rector of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, for that purpose; and said Parish promises to repay said twelve hundred dollars to said Trustees or their order within one year from this date, provided said sum is not so applied. . . ."

In order to complete the history of the transfer of this property to All Saints' Parish, the following extract from a later record is here inserted:—

*V. R.* 1876. April 11. Special Vestry Meeting. The meeting was called for the special purpose, "to receive and act upon a





petition from the Wardens and Vestry of All Saints' Parish, Milton Lower Mills, that the Rector of St. Mary's Parish be authorized to convey to said Parish by proper deed the land upon which their church now stands." The following is the petition :—

BOSTON, Feb. 23d, 1876.

*To the Rev. Mr. Silvester and the Wardens and Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary's (Dorchester District), Boston :—*

*Gentlemen :—* By a deed dated March 6th, A. D., 1871, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book No. 1,037, folio 220, in consideration of the sum of eighteen hundred and thirty dollars paid by the Rev. William H. Mills, Rector of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, Asaph Churchill, of said Dorchester, conveyed to the said Mills (Rector as aforesaid) and his successors in that office a piece or parcel of land containing 28,150 square feet, more or less. . . . The undersigned represent that a house of worship of God, according to the forms and tenets of the Protestant Episcopal Church, has been erected on the aforesaid lot of land, in which the Services of said Church are regularly held; that a Parish has been organized according to the Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church by those worshipping therein, called the Parish of All Saints, and at the last annual Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts was duly admitted; that a Clergyman of said Church has been regularly installed over said Parish who regularly ministers therein in spiritual things; and finally the said Parish of All Saints has in all respects complied with and observed the requirements and provisions of said conveyance requisite to entitle them to, and that they are duly qualified to receive the conveyance named in said deed.

We, therefore, in behalf of said Parish, request the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's to authorize their said Rector to make said conveyance of the said lot of land to the Parish of All Saints.

GEO. T. STODDARD,  
HENRY M. SNELL,  
Wardens.  
O. B. BUCK,

JOSEPH M. CHURCHILL,  
HENRY W. EMMONS,  
HENRY R. BROWN,  
JOSEPH A. FRENCH,—*Vestrymen.*



After the reading of the petition and due consideration of the same, it was unanimously voted, on motion of Mr. Wm. P. Hunt, to request and authorize the Rev. W. W. Silvester, Rector of St. Mary's Parish, to make conveyance of the property named in the petition of All Saints' Parish, according to the terms named in said petition of Feb. 23, 1876.

The chronological order is now resumed.

*V. R.* 1871. Sept. 12. Vestry Meeting.

*Voted*, to accept a lot at Mount Hope Cemetery, No. 432, on Elmwood Avenue, containing seven hundred square feet. The name of the donor of this burial lot was not revealed.

#### RESIGNATION OF RECTOR.

*P. R.* 1873. Sept. 22. Parish Meeting. The following letter from the Rector was read by the Clerk for the consideration of the Parish:—

DORCHESTER, Sept. 9th, 1873.

*To St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester, Mass.:—*

I resign into your hands the charge of St. Mary's Parish, which you committed to me about thirteen years ago, my resignation to take effect on next Easter-Day, or upon any earlier day which may suit my convenience.

Yours very truly,

WM. H. MILLS.

*P. R.* Oct. 6. Adjourned Parish Meeting. Mr. Charles Emery moved that the Parish accept the resignation of the Rector, the Rev. Wm. H. Mills, according to the tenor of his letter to the Parish.

The Chairman having put the question on the acceptance of the resignation of the Rector, it was voted to accept it.

On motion of Mr. M. L. Bradford, the following Resolution was unanimously passed by a standing vote:—

*“Resolved*, That while the circumstances of the Parish make it necessary to accept the resignation of our Rector, the Rev. Wm. H. Mills, we desire to express the entire respect and the affection which is felt for him by each of us here present, and, as we believe, by the whole congregation of St. Mary's Church.”



P. R.

DORCHESTER, Oct. 9, 1873.

*The Rev. Wm. H. Mills, Rector of St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester:—*

REV. AND DEAR SIR, — At an adjourned meeting of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, holden in the church on the 6th inst., to act upon your letter of resignation, the undersigned were appointed a committee to inform you of the acceptance of your resignation, by the Parish. In accepting the same, the Parish desire, through us, to say to you that all the members entertain for you the highest respect and affection. For nearly fourteen years you have labored with them, as their beloved Rector, with marked ability, untiring energy and unquestioned fidelity; and when the hour of your departure shall have arrived, rest assured that your official and personal relations with them will ever be held in kind remembrance.

With our best wishes for your health, happiness, and continued usefulness, we remain,

Faithfully yours,

DANIEL SHARP,  
MARTIN L. BRADFORD,  
DANIEL B. STEDMAN, Jr.

It was while Mr. Mills was in charge of the Parish that much of the best work of the Church was accomplished. Those days must have been stirring ones—the days of our Civil War. The fact that the Rector's wife was a Southern woman, with decided interest in the cause of the Confederacy, no doubt proved embarrassing to the Rector and people in those trying years of our national existence.

DORCHESTER, Oct. 10, 1873.

*To the Committee of St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester, Mass.:*

Your letter, informing me of the acceptance of my resignation by St. Mary's Parish, at their meeting held Monday, the 6th inst., was received last evening.



'This result is very satisfactory, as it proves to me that in resigning, I act from a right judgment.

'Thanking you for your kind words, and praying that God may fill all your hearts with His spiritual benediction and grace,

I am, yours truly,

WM. H. MILLS.

DANIEL SHARP, MARTIN L. BRADFORD, DANIEL B. STEDMAN, Jr.,  
*Committee.*

YONKERS, May 26th, 1880.

*My Dear Mr. Saltonstall:—*

I . . . . comply with your request to give you some statement of my connection with St. Mary's, Dorchester. So far away from the Parish Records, I can give you little else than figures and statistics.

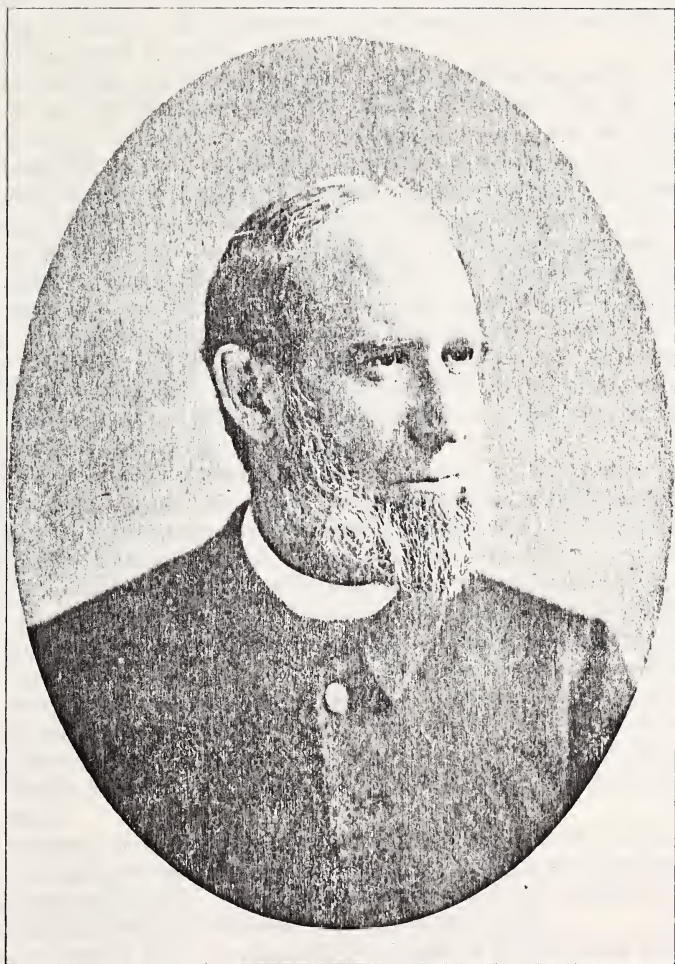
. . . . I took charge of St. Mary's, Dorchester, September 2d, 1860, but did not enter upon my full duties as Rector until the first Sunday in Advent, November 4th, 1860. I resigned my charge on Easter Day, April 5th, 1874, and was, therefore, the Rector of St. Mary's nearly fourteen years.

In 1862 a floating debt contracted before I took charge and amounting to \$600.00, was paid. In 1863 the mortgage debt, amounting to upwards of \$2,000.00, and contracted during the Rev. Mr. Drown's ministry, for the enlargement of the church, was also paid. During this year the lot west of the church, costing \$900.00, was bought and paid for, leaving the Parish at this time entirely free from debt. It so continued and with increasing income until the year 1866, when the church was greatly enlarged. Two bays were added to the length of the church, with north and south transepts, and a chancel 25 x 20. A small tower (which was blown down in the great gale) was added on the northwest corner, and a porch on the south side; a most excellent room was also made in the basement for the Sunday School, and a Bible Class Room and Rector's Room. The whole cost of this enlargement was about \$20,000.00. The Parish raised \$13,000.00, thus leaving a debt of \$7,000.00, which was provided for by mortgage on the church.

Besides this amount there was raised and paid for chancel furniture and window, and transept window and font, about \$1,500.00. A lot of land on the south side of the church lot, costing \$400.00, was also bought. I very greatly regretted the necessity of mortgaging the church, and, therefore, used my best endeavors to remove it as soon as possible, refusing, on account of this debt, several calls to other Parishes, and one especially which I very much desired to accept.







THE REV. WILLIAM H. MILLS.



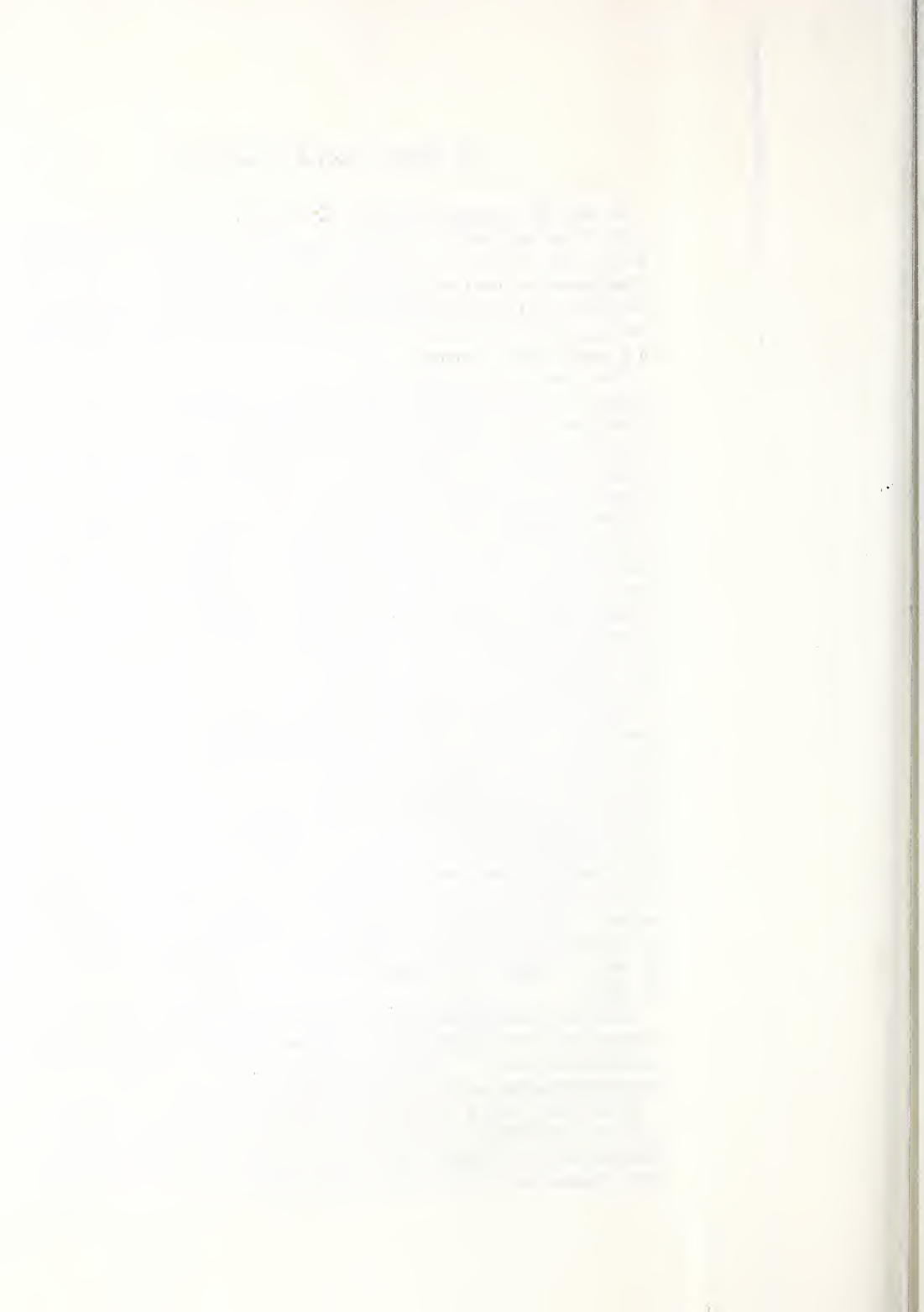
In 1873 the mortgage debt had been reduced to \$4,000.00. By great effort I had succeeded in obtaining subscriptions for this whole amount, and thought the Parish would soon be again free from debt. But before I had begun to collect the subscriptions the great fire took place in Boston, and destroyed my people's ability to pay their subscriptions. This was the turning point in St. Mary's prosperity, and ever since the mortgage debt has been a source of trouble.

The committee appointed by the Vestry for the enlargement of the church was; Mr. Nathaniel Phillips, Dr. C. E. Stedman and Mr. J. P. Townsend. The architect, who supervised the work, was Mr. George Ropes of Boston. All the pews in the old church were rented, and all the people of the Parish, I think, at that time saw the necessity of the enlargement, in order to provide pews at a lower rental, and so open the church to a class of people who, up to this time, were not largely represented. In the light of subsequent events, it might have been better to have been content with a smaller enlargement. But the Parish was in an excellent state of prosperity, and did not seem to have undertaken more than the need required, or than it could readily accomplish. In any event the Parish would not have been unfavorably affected by the enlargement of the church and the incurring of debt, had it not been providentially prevented from removing the mortgage.

In 1873 there was a marked change in the Parish. Up to this time it had been prosperous; the ninety-four communicants at the beginning of my ministry had increased to two hundred and fifty-four; the congregation had proportionally increased; St. Mary's was regarded as one of the strongest and most prosperous Parishes in the Diocese outside of Boston. The great causes of the change which then commenced were the disastrous effects of the great fire which fell with peculiar severity upon St. Mary's, the hard times then just coming on, and the unsettled condition of the town from the annexation to Boston. There may have been other minor causes for decline, but without these great ones, they would never have been worthy of notice. There is yet, I trust, a prosperous future for St. Mary's Church, and I rejoice that the tide has already turned again in its favor.

During my ministry there were three hundred and twelve baptisms, two hundred and sixteen confirmations, forty-one marriages and one hundred and sixty-four burials. The offerings taken in the church, exclusive of pew rents and donations of all kinds, amounted to \$52,130.38.

In the Fall of 1867 I commenced the Mission at Milton Lower Mills by sending to the Village to make inquiries Miss Hannah Austin, now Sister Hannah, who is in charge of the Church Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Mission owes a great debt to her faithful services for a long time



rendered. She found, to begin with, two Church families, and also a Hall, the "American Hall," in which the Services of the Church could be held. Services began at once and were held every Sunday evening. A Sunday School was formed, and Mr. G. T. Stoddard was appointed by myself as the Superintendent. To his very faithful, zealous and efficient labors the Mission was very greatly indebted. After the Services had once commenced they were never interrupted. I carried them on every Sunday evening until March 14th, 1869, when by my appointment the Rev. J. B. Clark, of Oakland Hall, Needham, conducted them on every Sunday morning until January, 1871, when the Rev. George Waters, D. D., succeeded him and continued the services for about a year and a half. I then resumed them myself, and with occasional help from Lay Readers continued them until I left Dorchester in the Spring of 1874.

In 1870 a large lot containing 28,000 feet was purchased of Mr. Asaph Churchill for the Mission. The cost was \$2,000.00, which I obtained from a generous Layman through the Parish Aid Society. In 1871 a very neat and substantial edifice was erected on the lot at a cost of a little more than \$5,500.00. This sum was raised mostly through my own personal efforts, the same generous Layman who had provided for the lot giving me two thousand dollars, and the people of St. Mary's giving a large share of the remainder. There was no debt left to trouble the Mission. March 23, 1874, I presided at the meeting of the people of the Mission who then organized themselves into All Saints' Parish, Dorchester Lower Mills. It is a great joy to me to hear of the continued prosperity of this Parish.

Before leaving Dorchester I prepared a history of the founding of All Saints' Parish, which you will find in the Parish Register. . . .

I have ever had at heart the prosperity of St. Mary's and her people, and my heart is glad to hear of its revived spirit since you have been its Rector. May God abundantly bless you in all your work, and make you the instrument of bringing the dear old Parish to even more than its former strength and prosperity. . . .

Yours faithfully,

WM. H. MILLS.

#### ELECTION OF RECTOR.

*P. R.* 1874. May 12. Special Parish Meeting. The Rev. W. W. Silvester was elected Rector.

DORCHESTER, May 13, 1874.

REV. AND DEAR SIR, — It is our pleasure to inform you that at the Parish Meeting holden according to law, at the house of Dr. C. Ellery Stedman, in the 16th ward of the City of Boston, you





were unanimously elected Rector of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester.

The salary offered is twenty-five hundred dollars, with a vacation of four weeks.

The committee appointed to notify you of this action of St. Mary's Parish hope that you will give this invitation early and favorable consideration. They are convinced that the united voice of the congregation in calling you to this office promises harmony and growth for the future of the Parish and cordial support to the Rector.

Should you accept this call, the committee beg leave to point out that the commencement of the duties of a Pastor cannot be too prompt to suit the wishes and needs of the people of St. Mary's.

Believing that we have been providentially guided in thus unanimously choosing you for our Rector, and invoking God's blessing upon you and yours, we are, dear sir,

Very respectfully, your obd't serv'ts,

J. P. CLAPP,  
C. ELLERY STEDMAN,  
DAN'L B. STEDMAN, Jr.,  
DANIEL SHARP,

*Committee of St. Mary's Church.*

*P. R.*

NORWICH, May 28th, 1874.

*To J. P. Clapp, C. Ellery Stedman and others; Committee of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, Mass.*

GENTLEMEN:—I have received your letter dated 12th inst., inviting me to become Rector of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, at a salary of \$2,500 and an annual vacation of four weeks. I thank you for the honor.

Having conferred with the members of the Parish, with your Bishop and with some of my personal friends, and after much prayerful consideration, I have decided to accept your invitation.

I shall come among you determined, God helping me, to serve you faithfully in the cause of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

I cannot but think that the unanimity of my call, kindly mentioned in your letter and also heard from members of your Parish,



is a signal intimation of Divine Providence, pointing out to me my present course of action and my duty, and I sincerely hope that our labors in the vineyard of the Lord, which we (D. V.) shall perform together (for I come to *help* you, not to do all for you) will abundantly testify that our guidance was from above.

It is my intention to take charge of St. Mary's Church, if agreeable to you, on the week following the 7th of June, my first Sunday being on the 14th. . . .

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant in the Lord,

W. W. SILVESTER.

*P. R.* 1874. Sept. 28. Special Parish Meeting.

*Voted*, that the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars be hired by mortgage of the Church property or otherwise to pay for the repairs upon the church, and that the Treasurer be authorized to execute the necessary deed or deeds and note or notes in behalf of the Parish, for that purpose.

1877. Oct. 1. Special Parish Meeting. *Adopted* an amended Constitution and By-Laws.

After Mr. Mills came the brief rectorate of Mr. Silvester. The ministry of the latter began, as it were, on the ebb tide of the life of the Church. Owing to the unexpected social results of the annexation of Dorchester to Boston, the centralization of all interest in the city proper, the removal of many wealthy residents from the town to the city, the dividing up of old estates, and the great fire of 1872, St. Mary's was compelled to pass through severe trials. Mr. Silvester did what he could under the circumstances, but resigned after a short service of four years.

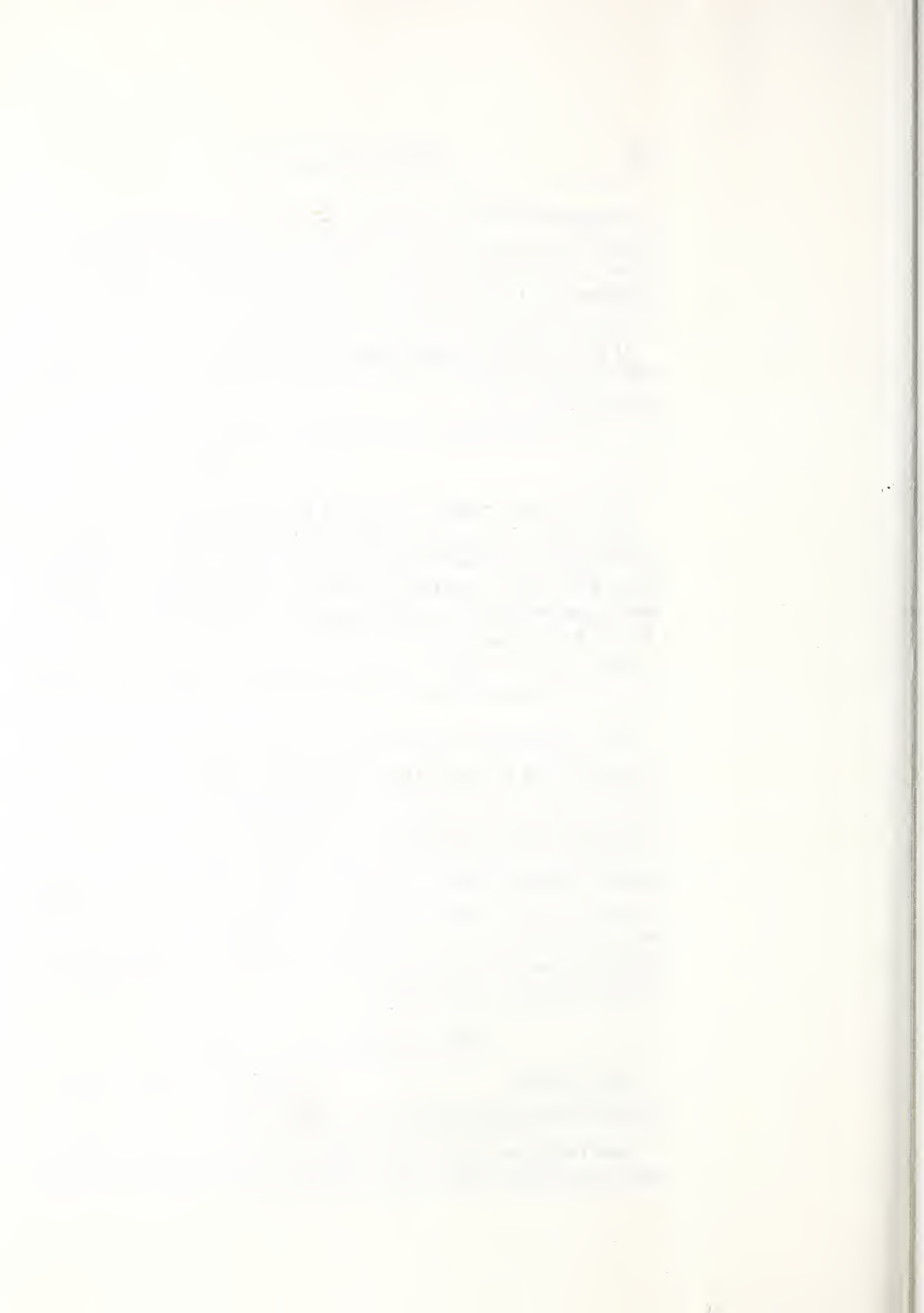
#### RESIGNATION OF RECTOR.

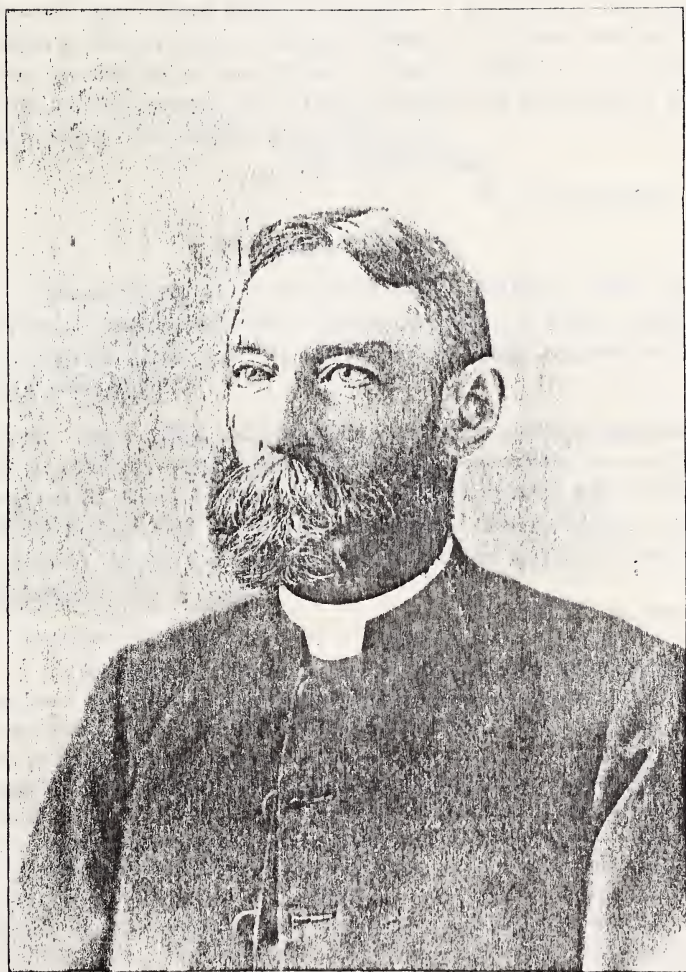
*V. R.* 1878.

DORCHESTER, Feb. 2, 1878.

*To the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Church.*

GENTLEMEN, — I very well recollect the gladness and hope with which, nearly four years ago, I entered upon the pastoral work of





THE REV. WILLIAM W. SILVESTER.





St. Mary's Parish, and I assure you, it is now with unfeigned regret that I am compelled to ask you to release me from the duties which I then took up at your invitation.

I would suggest, if it meets your approval, that my rectorate cease with the present month, February. I do not go away from St. Mary's without feeling a deep interest in its future welfare ; I feel an interest in it as a Church ; I feel an interest in it for the individuals that compose it. May God bless and keep both it and them is the earnest prayer of your Minister.

Very affectionately,

W. W. SILVESTER.

#### ST. ANN'S MISSION.

We place here, in connection with extracts from the Records, a note from Mr. Silvester, giving a brief account of the early history of St. Ann's, with some reminiscences of his rectorship.

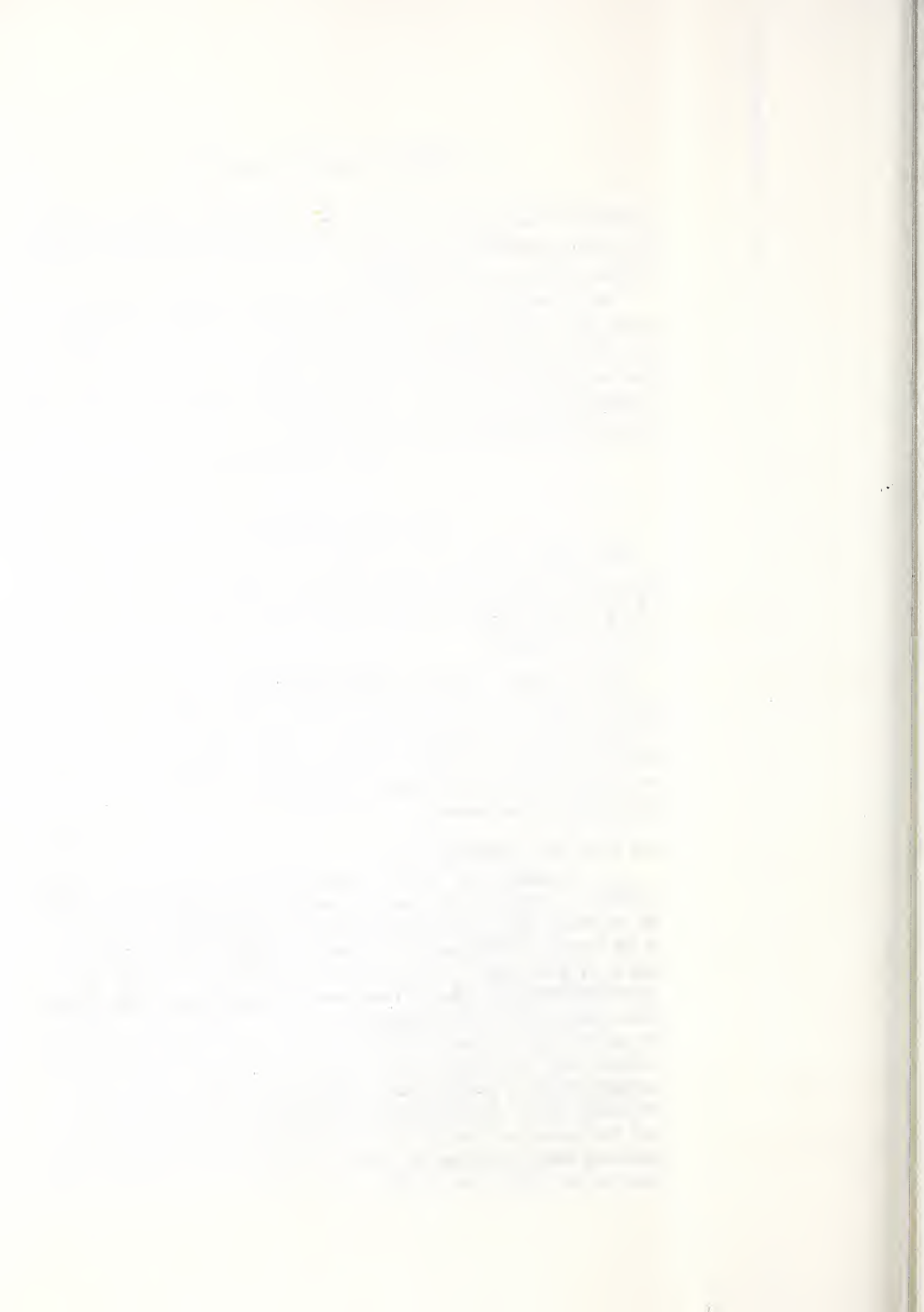
*V. R.* 1878. Feb. 12. Mr. Sharp, of the committee appointed Nov. 7, 1876, to confer with the Bishop and solicit him to take charge of St. Ann's Mission, made a verbal report of the interview with the Bishop, and expressed the opinion that the chapel would be finished during the coming spring, and the Parish relieved of the charge of the Mission.

AUGUST 10, 1897.

*My Dear Mr. Saltonstall:—*

. . . . I recollect St. Mary's in my lay days as in a most flourishing condition. The exodus of prominent families from the Parish began under the rectorship of the earnest, painstaking, successful Mills, who has gone to his reward. The departures continued under my own rectorship, which began in June, 1874. The depression following the Boston fire was severely felt in the Parish, and I have only a continuous recollection of hard times and a great struggle, forever going on, to meet current expenses. No people were ever more willing, it seems to me, to try and bear the burdens than the people of St. Mary's. One year I succeeded, by a personal effort, in raising a sum of money which the Vestry believed it impossible to do. The truth was that each one was willing to do his best, and the instances of sacrifices which cost something, that year, were undoubtedly many, and I feel sure they are written down in the book of good deeds to the credit of the faithful.





The only aggressive work done was in laying the foundations of St. Ann's Church. That enterprise never had the full sympathy or assistance of St. Mary's people. Mrs. Phillips, Miss Jones, and one or two living near the Mission, were all that were deeply interested. Mrs. Phillips was determined to give a plot of ground and establish a Mission. So, not knowing what would come of it, I began Mission Services in a barber's shop on the main street near the present church. The plan of building was secured in 1876 or '77, and the work begun. Mrs. Phillips, after giving the land, first gave \$500, then a second \$500; she died, somewhat suddenly, while the carpenters were putting on the roof of the building. Two five hundred dollar notes were found in her purse, which, had she lived, were to have been given for the construction.

A very few persons were helpful in securing funds for the building. I had it built at day's work, and begged, from day to day, the money to pay the carpenters. I received some galling lectures on the foolishness of young men inaugurating unnecessary Missions, and men who ordinarily would have given a hundred, gave ten dollars, for times were hard. Well, it was done up to the point where the *mysterious* Building Association of Boston (I don't know what it was called) would come in with the money for its completion; then I went from St. Mary's Church, and the Mission was turned over to St. James's, Roxbury, and the Rev. Percy Browne,—and the Rev. Phillips Brooks (who kindly gave me \$50 towards construction), in Perry's History, inadvertently gave the *whole credit to St. James's and its Rector*. In your history, please see that St. Mary's gets credit for the work. In regard to the Mission not being needed: Bishop Paddock informed me that St. Ann's became a self-supporting Church sooner than any Mission ever started in Boston. . . .

Yours, very fraternally,

W. W. SILVESTER.

#### ELECTION OF RECTOR.

P. R. 1878. April 12.

BOSTON, 12th April, 1878.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—At a meeting this day of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, it was unanimously voted to extend to you the invitation to become its Rector, at a salary of one thousand dollars per annum, to be taken at such times as you may wish.

We therefore cordially request your acceptance of the rectorate, trusting that you may find it a worthy field for your labors, and that between you and your people there may be established mutual



confidence and esteem, which will make your duties pleasant and promote the happiness and good of us all.

It is thought to be highly desirable that, in the event of your acceptance, you take charge of the Parish at the earliest possible date.

Hoping for a favorable consideration of our invitation, we are,  
dear sir,

Faithfully yours,

JOHN P. CLAPP, *Warden.*

WM. F. JONES, *Clerk.*

MARTIN L. BRADFORD,

WM. P. HUNT,

*Committee.*

*To the Rev. L. W. Saltonstall, Cambridge.*

*P. R.*

CAMBRIDGE, April 15th, 1878.

*Messrs. John P. Clapp and others, Committee of St. Mary's Parish,  
Dorchester, Mass.:—*

GENTLEMEN:—I cordially accept the invitation conveyed to me in your note of the 12th inst., to become the Rector of "The Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester," and feel honored by the "unanimous vote," which authorized your action.

It will not be convenient for me to leave Cambridge before Monday, May 6th. Immediately after that date I hope to enter upon my duties in Dorchester. I earnestly hope with you that all our intercourse may promote only mutual confidence and esteem.

With a deep sense of the responsibility and importance of the office to which you have called me, I cannot too urgently ask your kind assistance and patience, and trusting that in all things official and personal, we may be directed and controlled by Him without whom we can do no good thing,

I am, sincerely yours,

L. W. SALTONSTALL.

#### THE FAIR.

*V. R.* 1879. Nov. 23. The Treasurer stated that the net result of the recent Fair was \$2,950, out of which the mortgage of \$2,100 . . . on land belonging to the Parish had been paid, the balance of \$850 being deposited in bank.



V. R. 1883. Nov. 18. Vestry Meeting. The Rector stated that he had obtained a quit-claim deed of the Church land from Mrs. S. P. Bogardus, one of the surviving heirs of the Dodge estate, and was in negotiation for a similar deed from Mr. C. S. Dodge, the surviving heir.

V. R. 1884. March 10. Mr. Martin L. Bradford, chairman of the committee to consider the propriety of securing a site for a new church edifice, read the report of the committee.

*Voted*, that the concluding portion of the committee's report be placed on file, viz. :

"The committee therefore report that, in their judgment, the way is not now open for the removal of St. Mary's Church to another site. They think it very desirable that the pews now held by non-resident owners should become the property of the Parish, in order that the property may be wholly in the control of the worshippers, should it be found expedient at any future time to move the church."

V. R. 1884. Oct. 26. Vestry Meeting. The Rector read a letter from Rev. Percy Browne in reference to organizing St. Ann's Mission into a Parish, and requesting the consent of the Vestry. On motion of Mr. Bradford, it was *Voted*, that the Clerk be instructed to signify the assent of the Vestry to the formation of St. Ann's Parish.

Mr. Edwards desired that his name be placed on record as voting in the negative, and Mr. Sharp requested his to be placed as not voting.

#### DEATH OF MR. JOHN P. CLAPP, SENIOR WARDEN.

V. R. 1885. June 21. Vestry Meeting. Mr. Bradford, of the committee appointed at the last meeting to draw up Resolutions on the death of Col. John P. Clapp, then presented the following Resolutions, which were adopted:—

"*Whereas*, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from this world of trial and suffering to one of everlasting rest and peace our venerable and beloved Senior Warden, who has faithfully served the Parish in that capacity for the period of thirty-five years :





*"Be it Resolved,* That we desire to place on record our love and appreciation of him who will no longer meet us in council or guide us by his advice and experience. We would offer our united testimony to the exalted worth of one whose integrity was unimpeachable, whose fidelity to his Church was seldom equalled, and whose life as a Christian is a model which all should strive to imitate.

*"Resolved,* That the example of his Christian life shall be a lasting monitor to us, inciting us to a more earnest zeal for the welfare of that Church which he so long and faithfully served.

*"Resolved,* That we feel that our words are inadequate to do justice to the character of our departed friend; therefore we desire to add to our Resolutions the following extracts from a commemorative sermon preached by our beloved pastor, the Rev. L. W. Saltonstall, on the Sunday following his death, from the text—Psalm xci: 16, 'With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.'

"It has never been my lot to meet one whose life seemed to be in all respects such a perfect fulfillment of the promises contained in the text as him whose loss falls so heavily upon this Parish and upon us who have known and loved him in past years. And if the first promise of the text was fulfilled in his experience, may we not as certainly say that the second was also? 'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance';—so wrote St. Paul to the Galatians. And I can find no terms better fitted to outline the features of that life so beloved by us all. As we miss the sight of his venerable face, the grace of his manner, the kindness of his words, let us remember the source whence those all came, from the heart of a man 'whose delight was in the law of the Lord.' In His law did he meditate day and night.

"John Pierce Clapp was the son of Ebenezer and Eunice Pierce Clapp, and was born in Dorchester, February 12th, 1803, and died after a short and painless illness, May 28th, 1885, aged 82 years, 3 months. He was confirmed in 1842 by Bishop Griswold, for whom he always expressed the sincerest respect and affection.

"By his death the Rector lost one whom he venerated as a father and loved as a friend. His kind words, good deeds and wise



counsels will come to mind on many occasions, and all these will testify to his having been in all his relations faithful."

*"Resolved*, That we tender to the family of our departed friend our heartfelt sympathy for the loss they have sustained. May the recollection of his many virtues and the hope of his joyful resurrection to the life immortal, be their comfort and solace."

#### BURNING OF THE OLD CHURCH.

The church on Bowdoin street, as has elsewhere been told, was burnt June 15, 1887.

*V. R.* 1887. June 16. Vestry Meeting. A letter was read from Mr. H. G. Allbright, offering Winthrop Hall for the use of the Church for Sunday Services. On motion of Mr. Bird, it was *Voted*, that Mr. Allbright's offer of Winthrop Hall be accepted, and that the thanks of the Vestry be extended to him for his prompt and courteous action at this time of the Church's need.

On motion of Mr. Bradford, it was *Voted*, that the thanks of the Vestry be extended to the committee of the First Parish in Dorchester for their offer of the use of their church; and on recommendation of the Rector, it was voted to accept the use of the vestry-room for choir rehearsals at such times as would be convenient to the First Parish congregation.

*Voted*, that the Rector reply to the courteous letter received from the Clerk of St. Ann's Parish, and also extend the thanks of the Vestry for the kind offer made.

*Voted*, that the thanks of the Vestry be extended to the Standing Committee of the Stoughton-street Baptist Church for their thoughtful offer of their church for the afternoon services of St. Mary's.

#### A NEW LOCATION CONSIDERED.

*P. R.* 1887. July 18. A Parish Meeting was held to consider: *First*—What action shall be taken in regard to buying a new lot of land for a new church. *Second*—To consider the subject of consolidation with St. Ann's Church. *Third*—To consider the subject of amending the Constitution. *Fourth*—To take action on the subject of buying from C. S. Dodge, of Lowell, all his



claims to land owned by St. Mary's Church. *Fifth* — To consider what disposal shall be made of the old lot of land in case a new one is purchased.

*P. R.* July 25. A meeting of pew-owners and a special Parish meeting was held, and amended the Constitution and By-Laws, taking control of the property from pew-owners only, and giving it to "a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular Parish Meeting called for that purpose and constituting a majority of all members of the Parish."

The letter from St. Ann's Parish was then read, which conveyed the vote of that Parish, that consolidation with St. Mary's was inexpedient.

"*Resolved*, That whereas the Parish of St. Ann's Church have voted *not* to accept the proposals made to them by this Vestry, it now becomes necessary that the Parish of St. Mary's should decide upon a location for a new church at the earliest date. That in the opinion of the Vestry, it would be best for the future welfare of the Church to abandon the old location and choose a new site more easily accessible by means of the various lines of street cars.

"That having learned that the interests of the two Parishes would not be likely to conflict if St. Mary's Church is not located *west* of Upham's Corner, it would be well to consider a location in the direction of said Corner."

*P. R.* Sept. 30. Parish Meeting. The committee on selecting a site for a new church for St. Mary's recommend that the Parish purchase four lots of land, two on Stoughton Street and two on Cushing Avenue, which can be bought for fifty cents per foot, and the owners will donate a sum equal to five cents per foot to the Parish towards building the new church. These four lots contain about 20,200 square feet.

For the committee,

W. B. BIRD.

*Voted*, That the Parish purchase the four lots of land on Stoughton Street and Cushing Avenue, selected by the committee on site, at an expense of not over fifty cents per foot, and appropriate the necessary money from the funds belonging to the Parish and now in charge of the Finance Committee.





*Voted*, That the Parish sell the lands of the Parish on Bowdoin Street, and that the Finance Committee be empowered to contract for such sale, and to execute, in the name and on behalf of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester, any deed or deeds necessary to effectuate such sale, and to hold the proceeds as a fund for the erection of a new church edifice, to be paid out as and when directed by vote of the Vestry.

*V. R.* 1887. Oct. 24. Vestry Meeting. Mr. Bird, for the committee to settle with Mr. Dodge, reported that Mr. Dodge's claim, as heir to Mrs. Catherine Dodge, upon the land given by her to the church, had been purchased for \$500.

#### GROVE HALL MISSION.

The question of starting a Sunday School on the Upper Road was discussed at length in a Vestry meeting held in the Autumn of 1887. It was voted to be the sense of the Vestry that the Rector encourage as far as it is in his power the interest shown in a Sunday School on the Upper Road.

#### GIFT FOR AN ORGAN.

*V. R.* 1887. Nov. 13. A vote of thanks was unanimously extended to Mrs. George W. Harding, on behalf of the Vestry and Parish, for her gift of \$1,000 for an organ.

. . . . After explaining his plan, Mr. Saltonstall retired, and a letter from him was then read, stating that his physicians had advised him of the absolute necessity of his leaving this climate for five or six months.

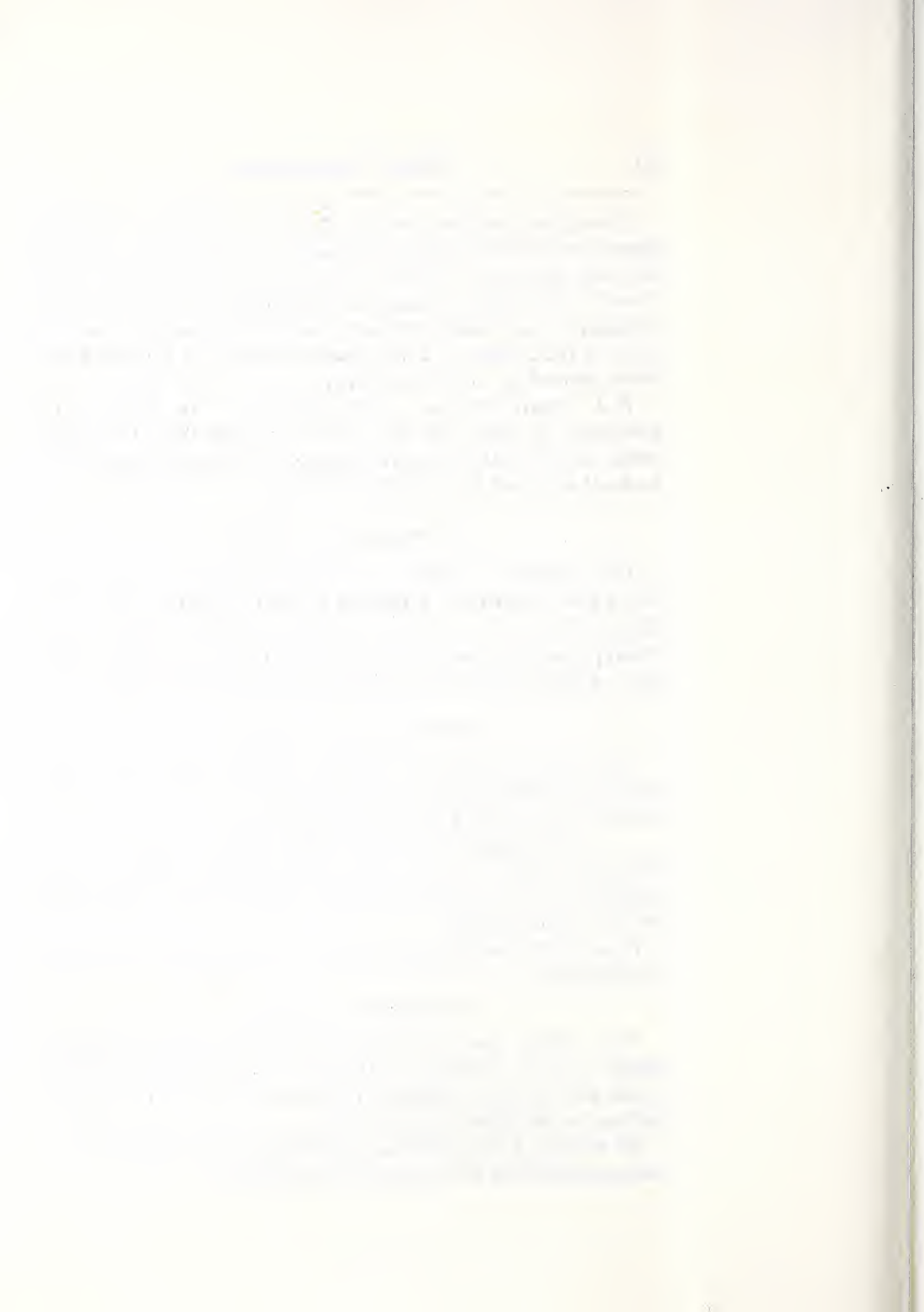
It was *Voted*, unanimously, to grant the Rector leave of absence as asked for.

#### DECISION TO BUILD.

*V. R.* 1888. Jan. 29. A letter of protest [against St. Mary's Parish plan of building at Upham's Corner] from St. Ann's Parish was read, also a copy of the protest which St. Ann's Parish had sent to the Bishop of the Diocese.

On motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Bufford, it was unanimously *Voted*, to lay this letter on the table.





Feb. 17. *Voted*, that the Building Committee be authorized to contract with Messrs. Woodbury & Leighton for the construction of the church building, according to the plans and specifications presented by Mr. Henry Vaughan, architect, accepted on this date, at an expense not exceeding \$16,827; the church to be finished in a thorough manner, including furnaces, plumbing, gas-piping and grading, and to be delivered tight, and warranted to continue so, for twelve months. That the committee be further authorized to expend the sum of \$250 for a hardwood finish, and the further sum of \$500, to be used at their discretion, for interior finish and decoration.

#### LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE OF NEW CHURCH.

*P. R.* 1888. July 2. There were present, by special invitation of the Rector, the Rev. C. F. Whittemore, the Rev. J. R. Pierce, and the Rev. A. H. Wright. The first two took part in the Services, being surplised. Of the Laity, about fifty were present, among whom were Messrs. Emery, M. L. Bradford, Beale, senr., Beale, junr., and Warner.

Just after 3 P. M. the Rector began the Service by reading the first verse of Psalm 127: "Except the Lord build the house," etc. Hymn 202, "The Church's one Foundation," was then sung.

The Rev. Mr. Pierce read Psalm 122, after which the Rector read the Creed, and the Collects "Stir up, O Lord," "Direct us, O Lord," the Lord's Prayer and a special prayer.

Hymn 275 was then sung, after which the Rector read the inscription on the box recently discovered in the corner-stone of the old church, viz.:

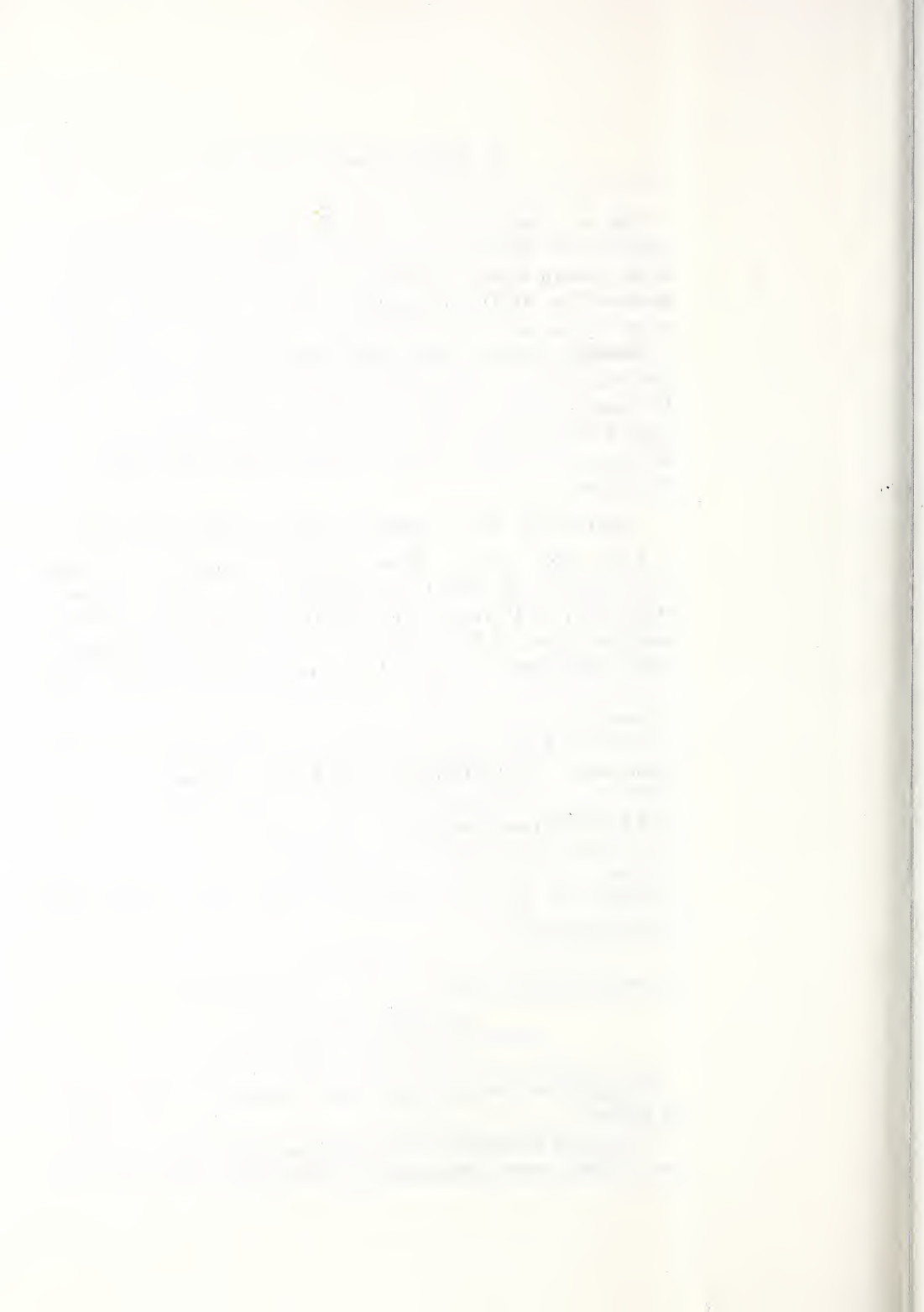
A. D. MDCCCXLIX.

To which had been added by this Vestry (engraved):

OLD CHURCH BURNED 1887.  
THIS BOX REMOVED TO CORNER-STONE OF  
NEW CHURCH 1888.

Then the list of the contents of the new box (8 x 8 x 6) was read as follows:

1. Sketch of the History of the Parish from Organization to date: in part a printed account, first published in "The Beadle," the journal of our



Fair in 1884, and in part MS. notes from the Records, prepared by the Rector and Mr. Beale, Junr., the Clerk.

2. Two copies of the Constitution and By-Laws — one of 1855 and one of 1877.

3. Printed Circular dated Bowdoin St., Dorchester, Sept. 21, 1849, expressing the thanks of the Rector and Vestry for various donations of money, for land and buildings, for chancel, books, furniture, and for the silver Communion Service.

4. List of Donors (without the Parish) to the Building Fund and to the Organ Fund, with the total amount on each account.

5. List of special contributions for the interior of the church, *e. g.*, organ, pews, pulpit, lectern, etc., which amounts are the proceeds of lectures, exhibitions, fairs, sales, etc.

6. List of the Members of the Altar Guild, and the sum total for the purchase of an altar.

7. List of the Members of the Young Ladies' Missionary Society.

8. Statement of St. Mary's Sunday School, giving names of officers, teachers and scholars.

9. Memorandum relating the history of our branch Sunday School at Mt. Bowdoin.

After this reading was ended, Mr. Warner first placed the old box and then the new box in the cavity in the Corner-Stone, where they were wedged in position by Mr. Lester, the foreman. Then the stone was turned over and put in its final resting place. The Rector, with three strokes of a trowel, then "laid" it, using the formula found in the "Vade Mecum."

The Rev. Mr. Whittemore of All Saints' Church next delivered a short and appropriate address, the Rector following with words congratulatory and grateful.

After singing Hymn 276, and the utterance of the minor Benediction, the audience dispersed.

An amended Constitution and By-Laws were adopted October 30, 1888.

*V. R.* 1888. Nov. 11. A Meeting of the Vestry of St. Mary's Church, duly called by the notice sent in writing to each member, was held in the Vestry-room of the new church building on Sunday,



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November 11, 1888, at 12 o'clock; being the first time the new church was used for any purpose of the Parish.

On motion of Mr. Edwards,

*Voted*, that the Parish move into the new church on Christmas Day, or sooner, if the organ is finished.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PEWS.

*V. R.* Dec. 16. By order of the Vestry:—

"1. A Plan of the Pews will be posted in the new church, on and after Christmas Day, showing the location and the assessed rental of each pew.

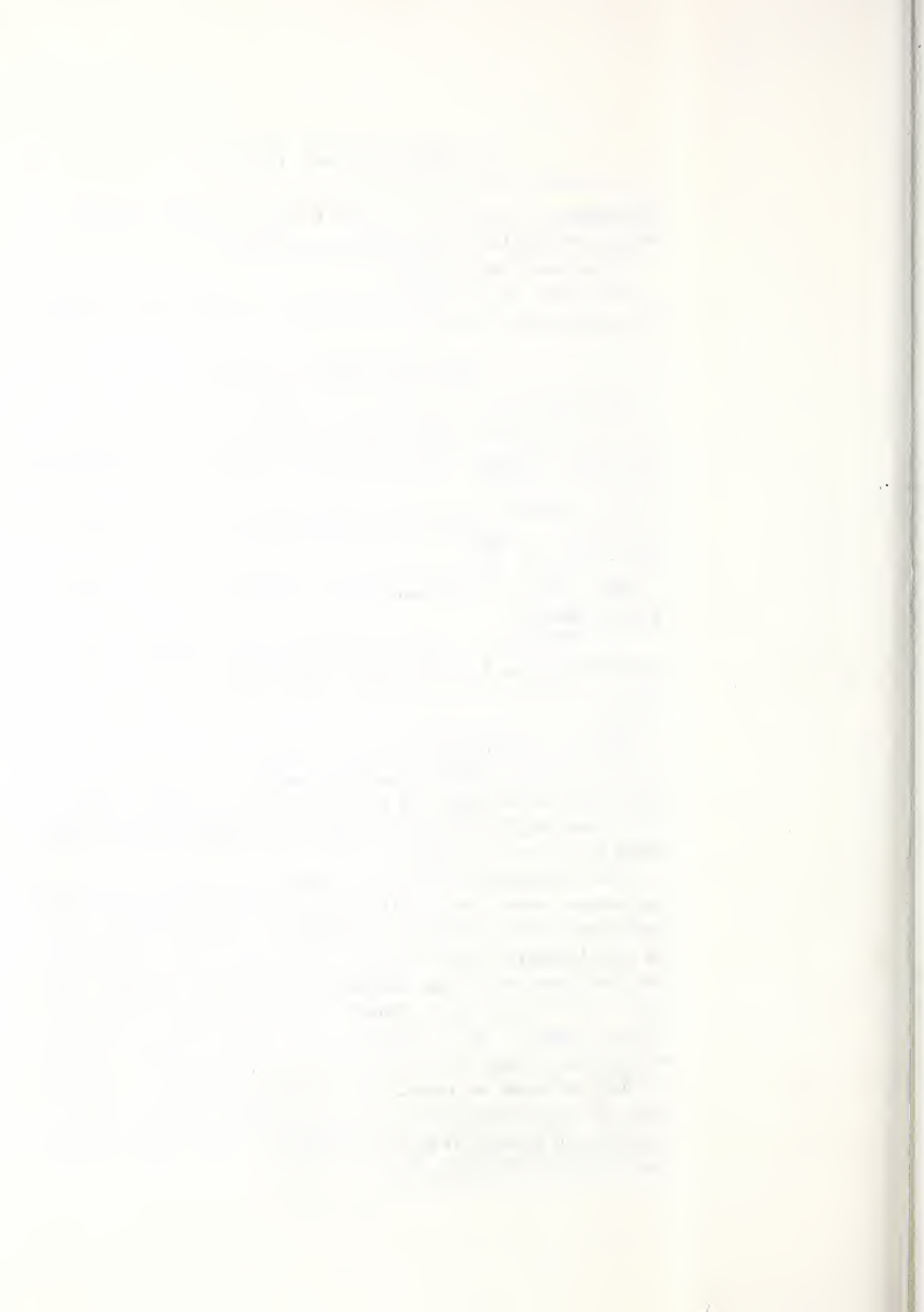
"2. The choice of pews for rental will be offered at auction, in the church, at Upham's Corner, on Monday, December 31st, at eight o'clock, P. M." . . . .

1888. Dec. 25. Christmas Day. The first Service was held in the new church.

*V. R.* Dec. 31. *Voted*, that the following quotation from the sermon delivered by the Rector at the opening of the church on Christmas Day clearly voices the sentiment of the Vestry in the matter:—

"Where all have labored so earnestly and so well, there can be no honor list, no roll of conspicuous merit; and hence it is not incumbent on me here and now to thank many whose interested efforts have been absolutely essential in accomplishing the results which to-day are so apparent.

"Yet I cannot leave this place without mentioning the name of one whose praises are in all mouths; who has sacrificed time, money and labor; who has watched the rise of this building from its very beginning, inspected all material, supervised every detail, corrected every error, and ordered all things to our great advantage. And I know that, in behalf of all the Parish, I may unhesitatingly tender to Mr. F. H. Warner the sincere thanks of those whose work he has so zealously cared for, and in whose interests he has sacrificed so much. His unflinching courtesy, his faithful labor, his conscientiousness in every particular, call forth our admiration and demand what we so freely give,—this simple expression of our heartfelt gratitude."





After the adjournment of the Vestry, the choice of pews in the church was sold by auction, the premiums amounting to \$302.

*P. R.* 1889. Feb. 16. Special Parish Meeting. Mr. Bird, on behalf of the members of the Parish, presented Mr. Warner, Chairman of the Building Committee, with a testimonial as a token of their gratitude and regard.

Mr. Lamson submitted the Report of the Finance Committee, showing the total cost of the new church, including furnishing, \$32,870.29, of which \$9,143.75 was for land, and \$1,900 for organ. This amount was obtained as follows:—From the insurance on church burnt (\$11,000); from sale of old site on Bowdoin street, \$5,000, less incumbrance paid, \$2,169.62 — \$2,830.38; subscriptions outside the Parish, \$8,820.41; subscriptions within the Parish, \$5,457.98; interest on deposits, \$261.52; mortgage loan, \$4,500.

*V. R.* 1891. Jan. 25. The Special Committee for Free Seats for Evening Service reported that all but five of those renting sittings in the church had signified their assent to the plan of the committee, to make all pews free at Evening Service, and that they expected to hear favorably from those five. The committee recommended that notice be given out that seats were free for Evening Service.

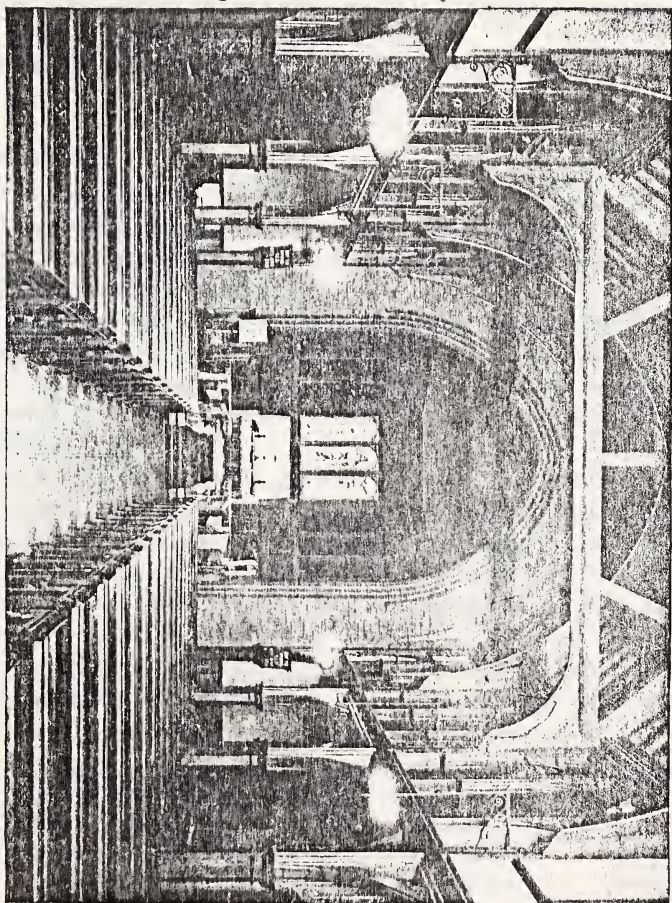
#### ENLARGEMENT.

*V. R.* 1891. Sept. 25. *Voted*, that the Vestry recommend to the Parish that the church building be completed of stone and rough cast, according to the style of the present structure, to seat at least 200 in addition to the present sittings, and at a cost not exceeding \$12,000, — \$5,000 of which shall be raised by the Parish and \$6,000 of which shall be raised by mortgage.

#### RESIGNATION OF RECTOR.

*P. R.* 1891. Oct. 30. A communication from the Rector, stating that he had received a call to the Parish of Christ Church, Hartford, Conn., and tendering his resignation, was read by the Clerk.





ST. MARY'S IN 1897.



The Senior Warden stated that, in the judgment of the Vestry, it had seemed expedient to accept the Rector's resignation, in compliance with his request. It was therefore

*Voted*, that the resignation of the Rector be accepted, to take effect on Monday, Nov. 23, 1891.

The Clerk read the following letter from the Vestry to Mr. Saltonstall. . . . .

*Voted*, that the Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized to sign the said letter in behalf of the Parish.

The motion was unanimously carried by a rising vote.

LETTER TO RETIRING RECTOR.

*To the Rev. L. W. Saltonstall:—*

REV. AND DEAR SIR,— We cannot allow the pastoral relation that has existed between us for so many years to come to an end without a few words to attest our esteem for your character and our wishes for your future prosperity.

We shall not forget your untiring zeal in the cause of the Church, nor the enthusiasm and the ability you brought to its service.

We all deeply regret your loss from our chancel and pulpit, and most of us feel personal sorrow at the severance of ties of friendship.

Our earnest good wishes go with you into your new sphere of activity and usefulness. We hope that you will find there enlarged opportunities and results more and more satisfactory; and we are sure that if energy and ability, high aims and high intellectual endowment can win success, you will attain to it in no small measure.

With renewed assurance of our esteem, and of our desire to testify our good will towards you in every possible way, we remain,

Most sincerely and respectfully yours,

MARTIN L. BRADFORD,	ALBERT A. CHITTENDEN,— <i>Wardens.</i>
GEO. H. L. SHARP,	H. W. EDWARDS,
JOS. H. BEALE, Jr.,	WM. H. TURNER,
HENRY G. ALLBRIGHT,	GEO. A. WILLIS,
ISAAC JACKSON,	CHAS. A. RUGGLES,

*Vestry of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester.*

GEO. G. BRADFORD, *Parish Clerk, in behalf of the Parish.*





## ELECTION OF RECTOR.

*P. R.* The Clerk read the following vote passed at the Vestry meeting held January 10, 1892 :—

*Voted*, that the Wardens and Vestry unanimously recommend to the Parish the election of the Rev. Walter E. C. Smith as the Rector of this Parish on a salary of \$2,000 a year, with a vacation of four weeks each year, to be taken at such time as the Rector shall determine.

*Voted*, unanimously, that the report of the committee be accepted, and that the Parish adopt the recommendation of the Vestry.

DORCHESTER, January 26, 1892.

*Rev. and Dear Sir* :— It is our pleasant duty to inform you that, at a Parish meeting held on Monday, January 25th, 1892, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Vestry, you were elected unanimously Rector of the Parish of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester.

Permit us to express our personal gratification at this choice so harmoniously reached, and the hope that you will see your path clear to accept the election.

The salary offered is two thousand dollars per annum, with four weeks' vacation each year, to be taken at such time as may suit the Rector's convenience, the pulpit being supplied during this vacation at the cost of the Parish treasury.

It is desirable that you should assume charge of the Parish at the earliest date that your convenience will allow.

We are, Rev. and Dear Sir, sincerely and respectfully, yours,

MARTIN L. BRADFORD,

ALBERT A. CHITTENDEN.

The Rev. WALTER E. C. SMITH.

ROXBURY, Jan. 30th, 1892.

*Mr. Martin L. Bradford, Mr. Albert A. Chittenden, Wardens of St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester* :—

DEAR SIRS :— Your letter of the 26th, telling me of the action taken by the Parish of St. Mary's, Dorchester, on Monday evening last, is at hand. An invitation such as that which your letter





describes, and your own personal assurance, which you were so very kind as to express to me, is certainly an honor that one may well feel proud of, and a mark of confidence which I sincerely trust I appreciate, and which I hope no future day may prove to have been misplaced.

It seems to me, as I consider the very fortunate present position of the Episcopal Church in our Diocese, and the rich and inspiring influence which must come from the life and labors of our Bishop, that we ought to hope for and expect great things from the work which unitedly we can do at St. Mary's.

It is with such hope and expectation that I accept, gladly, the call to the Rectorship of St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester, and my desire and prayer is that I may be of some real service in the work which is calling upon us for fulfillment.

I am unable to state at this moment precisely the day when I can enter upon the new work which is before me, but I think I can promise with safety to be at St. Mary's on Sunday, February 28th, the Sunday before Lent, and it is more than probable, as matters are now shaping themselves, that I can come to St. Mary's as early as Sunday, February 14th.

Thanking you for your letter and the kindness and confidence which it reveals, I am,

Very faithfully yours,

WALTER E. C. SMITH.

#### COMPLETION OF CHURCH.

*P. R.* 1892. Feb. 16. Parish Meeting. Under Article II of warrant the following vote of the Vestry was read:—

*Voted*, that the Parish be, and hereby is, recommended to pass the following resolve:—

*Resolved*, that the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in Dorchester, will complete the present church according to the plans prepared by Messrs. Hartwell and Richardson."

On motion it was unanimously

*Voted*, that the recommendation of the Vestry expressed in this vote be, and hereby is, adopted. . . .



*Voted*, that the Parish raise the sum of thirteen thousand dollars to pay for the completion and furnishing of the church.

*Voted*, unanimously, that the recommendation of the Vestry, as expressed in their vote of February 9, 1892, that the Treasurer of the Parish borrow, in the name of and on behalf of the Parish, an additional sum of \$8,500, and upon discharge of the present note and mortgage of \$4,500 . . . . . execute a new note and mortgage of \$13,000, be and the same is hereby adopted.

*V. R. Voted*, that the Building Committee be authorized to contract with Messrs. W. L. & J. A. Dodge for the completion of the church building according to the plans and specifications of Messrs. Hartwell & Richardson, accepted by the Parish February 16, 1892, at an expense not exceeding \$11,525. The church to be finished in a thorough manner, including pews, plumbing, gas-piping and rough grading; the building to be delivered tight, and warranted to continue so for twelve months.

Bishop Brooks died suddenly on the morning of the 23d of January, 1893. On January the 8th, he visited St. Mary's Church. The following Resolutions were read by the Rector on the morning of Sunday, January 29th, 1893:—

#### RESOLUTIONS.

In profound reverence and grateful love for him who, in this church; as it were but yesterday, spoke out of his own great soul the message of God as it was given him; whose words still seem to linger within these sacred walls, and the glory and inspiration of whose life we shall never cease to know and feel;

*Resolved*, That in the death of Rt. Rev. Phillips Brooks, D.D., the beloved Bishop of this Diocese, we have lost one whom we have grown to love devotedly as our Bishop, our pastor, and our friend; the Commonwealth and the Nation has lost one of her noblest and most patriotic citizens; the Christian Church and humanity, a prophet and preacher unsurpassed in the age in which he lived; a spiritual leader of men whose sympathies knew no bounds, and whose love could find no creature of God unworthy of its approach; a man whose noble and generous nature, whose broad and kindly spirit, whose innocence of life, everywhere and always commanded admiration and enlisted love, while his thought and affections



never failed to touch and invest with divine splendor every duty and every possibility of life.

In the midst of our almost overwhelming sorrow, we can from our hearts thank God for the sublime and beneficent life that has been lived among us, and for the privilege, which we can never estimate or regard too highly, of cherishing and perpetuating for others so precious a memory.

It will ever be a matter of interest to St. Mary's Parish that our Bishop was confirmed, July 27, 1857, in the old St. Mary's Church, and that it was there that he first publicly conducted the Services of our Church. In recognition of this fact, and more especially that we may record for those who come after us how profound has been our love for our Bishop, — a love which we shall only understand as we appreciate more fully the loss we have sustained, — be it further

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of this Parish be instructed to enter these Resolutions upon the Parish Records.

#### COST OF FINISHING CHURCH.

1893. March 31. The Report of the Finance and Building Committees gives the total disbursements as \$14,800, of which \$5,100 was from subscriptions and special offerings, \$8,500 from mortgage loan, and \$1,200 from Parish funds.

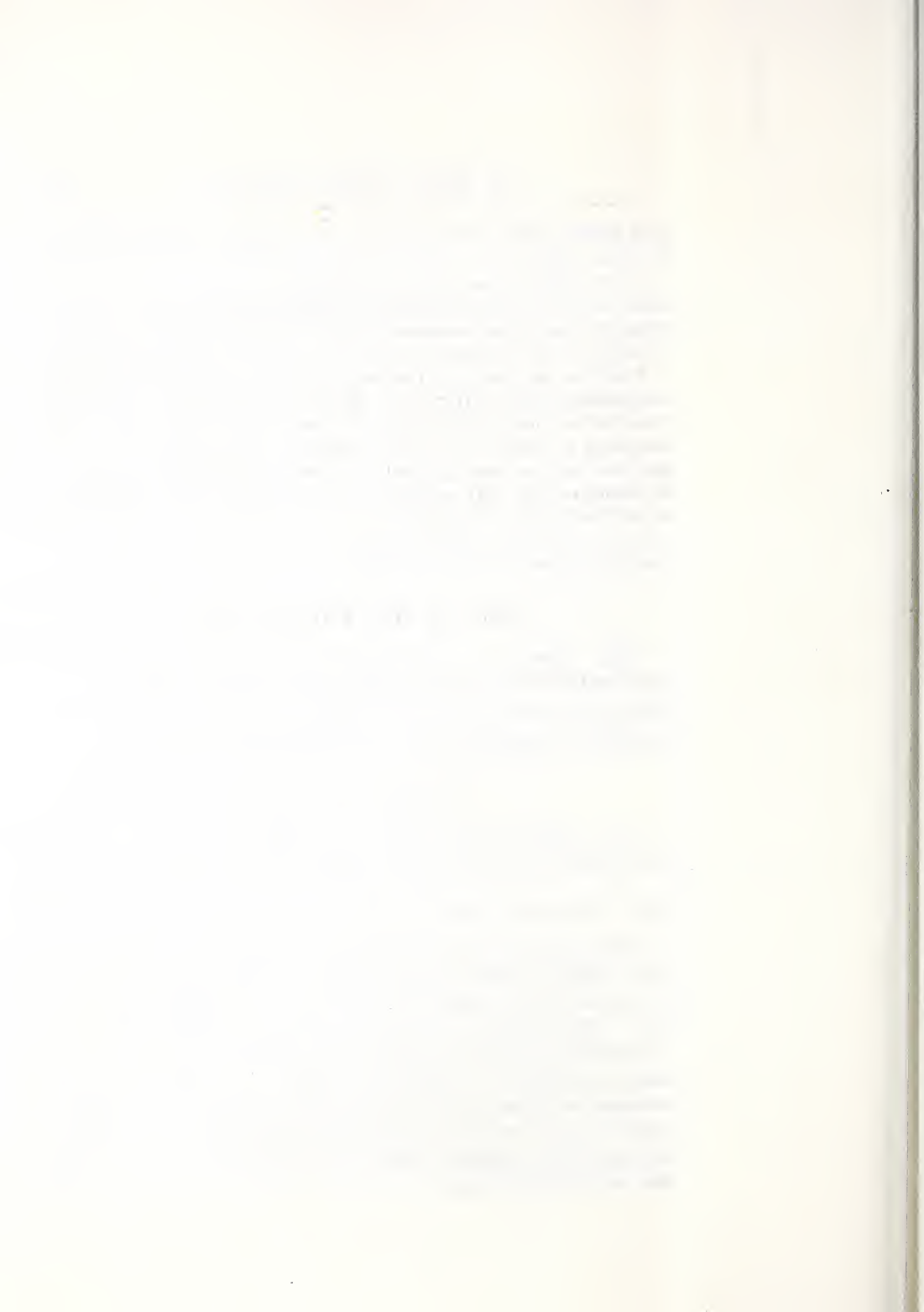
#### CHANCEL WINDOW.

*V. R.* Communication from Mrs. Martin L. Bradford on the presentation of a stained glass window for the chancel : —

*To the Vestry of St. Mary's Church :*

GENTLEMEN, — It gives me great pleasure to present to the Parish of St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, the stained window placed in the central three sashes in the chancel of the church, and made by the Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company of New York.

It would be my wish that the Vestry, in accepting this gift, would make it a matter of record that, should the stained window be destroyed or injured, it shall be replaced at the cost of the Parish ; and the better to secure its replacement, that there shall always be kept upon it an insurance against fire to the amount of not less than one thousand dollars.





With the sincere wish that this, which has been my much-loved church for many years, may enlarge and prosper more and more in the future,

I am, respectfully yours,

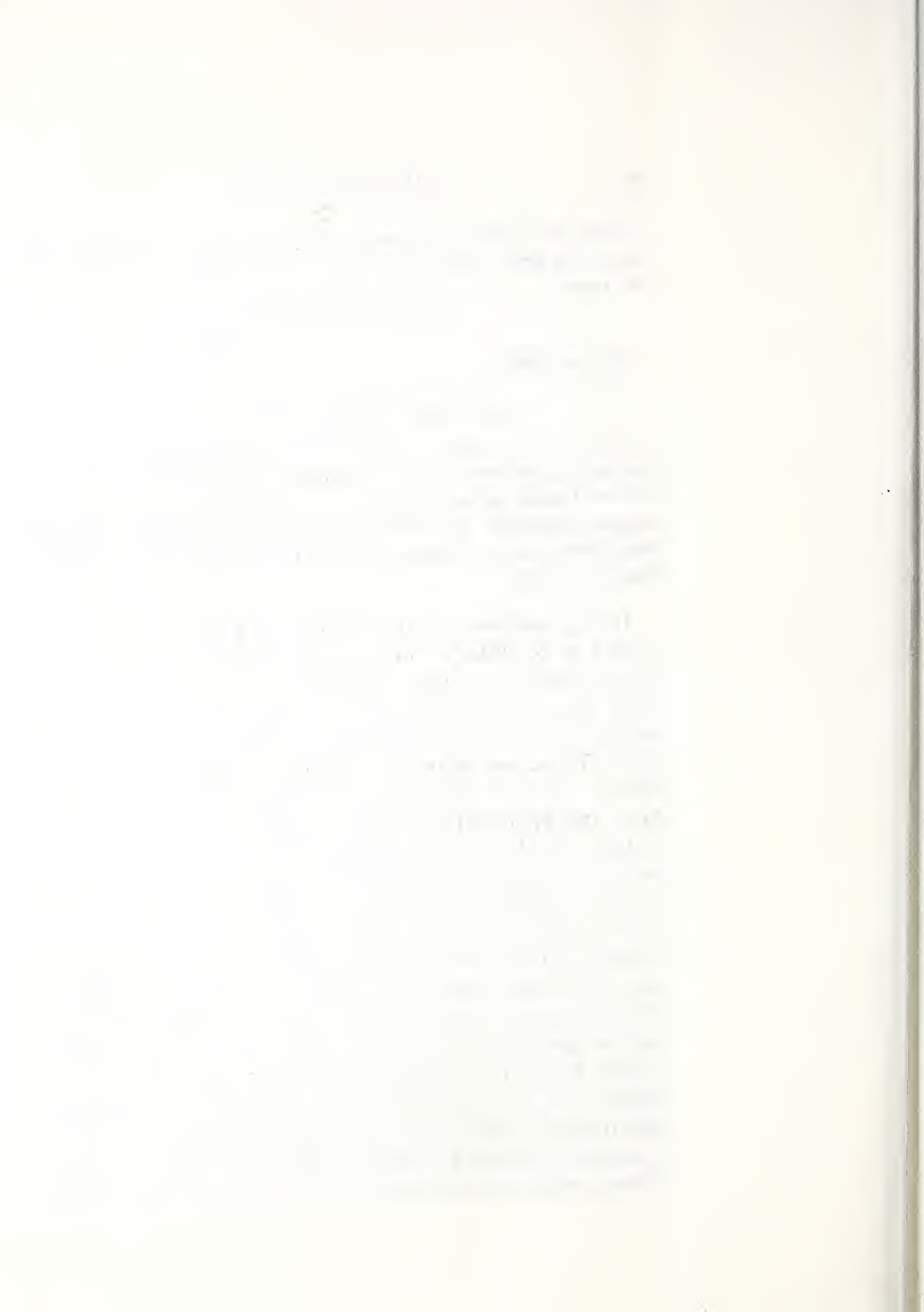
ABBY C. BRADFORD.

July 1st, 1893.

#### SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

*V. R.* 1897. April 19. *Voted*, that a committee, consisting of the Rector, Wardens, and two members of the Parish to be chosen by the Rector, be appointed, to take such measures as may be deemed expedient to appropriately observe the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the organization of the Parish, which occurs in September, 1897.

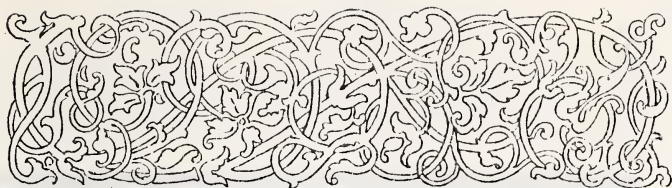
It only remains now to add in closing this record of past events in St. Mary's Church, that the history has been but briefly sketched. One is impressed more and more in a work like this present one, that when all selections from written records have been made, the best yet remains to be told. Those who shared in the past life and thought of St. Mary's will understand this, and where the bare statement of facts and figures are all that confront the later generation, to those who lived in these times, which have now become for most of us a matter of record, the past fifty years will be rich in life, and glorious in power. If it were accessible, the best source from which one could expect the real story of a Church's life and work would be found in the community of men and women who have grown up under the influence of the Church; who have lived for years within her shelter, and in the lives of those who have felt her inspiration for nobler living in a multitude of ways which are now far beyond our discovery. It is this influence for good, upon the lives of men and women, which is, after all, the best record of a Church's history. True to the instinct of hopefulness, which is the mark of our humanity, those who are



to-day full of loyalty and love for St. Mary's, find it impossible not to believe that there is most assuredly a glorious future before the Episcopal Church in America, and for St. Mary's as a part of this great Christian family. The conditions of life in America under Democracy seem to afford special promise for our Church, an opportunity for greater influence and for larger usefulness than ever before. It is for us to discern the signs of the times. St. Mary's has seen some dark days, but the brighter days have been more in number. It has had its time of prosperity, when, as the record truly states, "it was the strongest Parish in the Diocese beyond the limits of Boston," as well as its time of tribulation; but, personally, we believe the Christian Church at large, and our Church as a family in this great Church of God, may look forward to better days than any which have gone before; to possibilities for good which we cannot easily conceive of, but which are being more and more clearly revealed in the increasing interest which men are showing for such a reasonable faith as Christ came to inspire, and in the unmistakable evidence, which no wise or thoughtful man can overlook, that these opportunities are to find their occasion and fulfillment in the social evolution which is already upon us.







ANNIVERSARY DINNER  
OF THE  
PHILLIPS BROOKS CLUB



**T**HE Phillips Brooks Club of St. Mary's Church celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of the organization of St. Mary's Parish by a Dinner at the Hotel Brunswick, Boston, on the evening of October 11th, 1897. After dinner the President of the Club, the Rev. W. E. C. Smith, Rector of St. Mary's, said:—

Before we begin the regular exercises of the evening it is necessary, and at the same time a pleasure, to hear the report by our Secretary, of the last meeting.

Mr. Ruggles read a characteristic report of the previous Dinner of the Club.

The President then spoke of the conditions of the religious and Church life in the city of Boston, in the year 1847, mentioning some of the distinguished leaders of religious thought, and indicating possible influences in Church and State which gave character to the time. After a song by Mr. Townsend, the Rev. Mr. Smith, who, as President of the Club, acted as Chairman of the occasion, introduced the first speaker of the evening, the Rev. Mr. Drown, second Rector of St. Mary's Church.

*The Chairman:*—I am very sorry that Dr. Porter is not with us to-night, to tell us of the earliest years of Church work in Dorchester. He said, yesterday, that he might not be able to be







THE REV. W. E. C. SMITH.





present. We have with us, however, the second Rector of St. Mary's. It gives me pleasure to be able to call upon the Rev. Mr. Drown to say a few words to us.

ADDRESS OF THE REV. EDWARD L. DROWN.

I hardly know how to address my audience: Mr. President, Members of the Phillips Brooks Club, and Parishioners of St. Mary's, Dorchester (I believe that takes in all), — After the lapse of so many years, at no place could I be made to feel so at home with my old people as at a dinner table. The good people of St. Mary's, in my days, always believed in the *power* of good dinners; that a well-fed Clergyman could preach better because he was well taken care of. . . .

I want to speak for a moment of the people whom I met when I came here. I came to St. Mary's, Dorchester, in the spring of 1853. I have the names of some of them down here, but I am afraid I cannot read them in this dim religious light. There was Col. Clapp, James Jenkins, Robert Richardson, Charles Stimpson, Mr. John Clark, Capt. Sumner, Edward Howe, Capt. Charles Emery, and others I have forgotten. Those were the first ones that made the Vestry. I met yesterday two representatives of all those who met me in the spring of 1853 — two individuals as representatives of those families. I would like to speak of every one of them. I will speak simply of the two representatives I met.

A truer, better, more godly man I never knew than Col. John P. Clapp, a man for whom we could thank God in all humility; a man who loved his Church as dearly as he loved anything on earth; a man of whom the words of the Psalmist are literally true: "I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord." His memory is very precious to me. His son could have no richer legacy than the memory of a father of such purity, simplicity and firmness of character.

The other family whose representative is here to-night, and under whose hospitable roof I slept the first night that I ever passed in Dorchester, is that of Capt. Charles Emery. How well I remember them all. The first child I ever baptized was Julia Chester Emery, a household name throughout the American Church; and how well



I remember Mary, so thoughtful, so mature, so womanly beyond her years; everybody knows the honored name she now bears, Mrs. A. T. Twing,—a name as dearly loved and well known in China and Japan as in this, her New England home. Then there was little John. I remember dining at Capt. Emery's. John came from behind the door and said to me, "Mr. Drown, will you step out into the hall a moment? I want to ask you a question." I went out; then he looked up, that little boy six or eight years old, so earnest, so pathetic, and said I, "What is it, Johnnie?" "Mr. Drown," he said, "won't you please show me how to make a sermon?" Well, it was child-like, and yet the tears came into my eyes at once. I said, "Johnnie, I can't show you to-day, but God will show you one of these days how to make a sermon, I am sure." And out in his Western home the Spirit of God found him and called him to the ministry of His Church. How it all came back, as some years afterwards, in the Mission rooms in New York, when Dr. Twing took out a few sermons which John had sent on for his loving and helpful criticism!

And Theresa,—how well I remember her as a child, and what that one family did for the Church. 'The benediction of God upon a Christian home! We hear a great deal in these days about the higher religious life. God bless everybody who is trying to find it. We hear of Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods, and may God bless them all; but the holiest spot on earth is a Christian home, where God is known and honored, and the holiest relation that man or woman can hold is the relation of fatherhood and motherhood.

Well, this is a sample of the families I first met. They have long since passed away. May perpetual light shine upon them!

Let us take the next generation, and notice some of the names that follow in the next few years. First came Daniel B. Stedman. I would love to talk about him all the evening. Then Martin L. Bradford, and Dr. Stedman, and William W. Page, loyal, godly,—a true Churchman; then Henry J. Gardiner, not much of a Churchman himself, though always attending Church, but his family was very dear to me, and my dear child, in Paradise long since, bears the name of Mrs. Gardiner. Then came Daniel Sharp, son of the old Baptist divine of Boston; Shelton Barry, son of Dr. Barry, a



noted teacher in Jersey City, and others. They all came in a few years, and what a change they wrought in St. Mary's Church! When the Clergy exchanged with me, they used to be astonished at the long line of carriages waiting for the congregation, more than filling the sheds behind the church,—nearly all young men in good business. The money that supports the Church as a rule does not come from accumulated capital; it comes from men who are earning money. All of these flocked in upon us. It was wonderful how fast they came.

In 1858 we thought St. Mary's Church was to be the great Parish of the Diocese, outside of Boston, and there were special reasons why we flourished. In the first place, while there was no suspicion of the loyalty of the Church to the Union, and while there was no coming into it from any sympathy with the South, there was an utter sickness in men's minds in regard to political preaching. The newspapers were full of it; every lyceum lecturer was talking about the great question and the coming struggle, and it was not interesting, it was not helpful to go to Church and hear all that talk diluted, weakened. The people heard so much of it during the week that they wanted something else on Sunday, and they came to the Church for her splendid Service and for her preaching of the Saviour of the lost.

Then the second great influence that helped St. Mary's at that time was the attitude of the Boston Rectors towards suburban Parishes. Forty or fifty years ago, if a man moved out to Dorchester he severed his connection entirely with the Boston Parish. I remember a family moved to Dorchester, and after being out there a while I spoke to Dr. Vinton about his parishioner there; "Not my parishioner," and I was told he now belonged to my Parish. I remember when Martin L. Bradford came, and Dr. Randall said to me, "I don't know how the Church of the Messiah is going to live without Martin L. Bradford, but our loss is your gain." They actually refused to have anything to do with them after they lived in Dorchester. We always said; "If people are going into the suburbs, there is no single suburb of Boston that can compare for beauty of location with Dorchester. They will all come here."

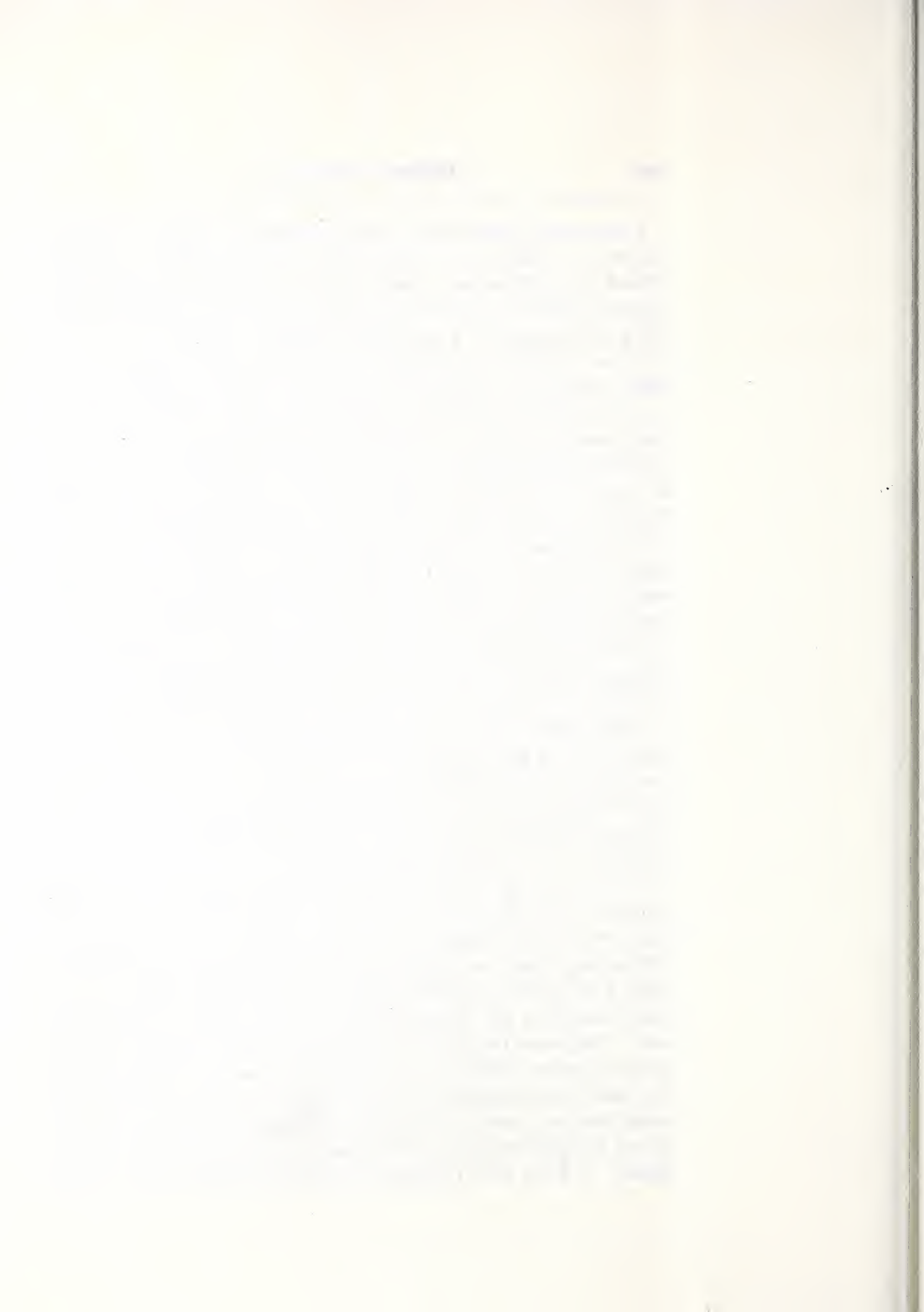




I want to say just a word more upon another subject. It was in St. Mary's Church, as you all know, that I presented Phillips Brooks for confirmation. His uncle was a parishioner at that time. Phillips Brooks was then out there, and he was confirmed in St. Mary's, Dorchester. The young stripling, I see him now, and I hear his voice as he preached some of his early sermons in St. Mary's, all giving indications of genius, and yet awakening doubts as to what line his genius would fall into. There were no visions that came to us then of what that young man was to be to the Church in Massachusetts and the country. There were no visions of that scene, the like of which none of us ever saw, when Trinity Church was all too small to hold the mourners, and the Service had to be read, part of it, in Copley Square. None of us had the vision of those strong Harvard students in their home at Cambridge, thousands of them standing with bowed heads and weeping eyes, mourning their friend, the inspirer of their lives.

It was in this Parish of St. Mary's that Dr. Huntington, now Bishop, was first introduced to the Clergy of the Diocese. It was at a Convocation and Daniel Sharp had invited us to dine with him. Dr. Huntington had just become a candidate for Orders:—I invited him to accompany me, and he came. I introduced him to the Clergy of Massachusetts, and I remember as if it were yesterday his opening words, "I heard that it was so, and I find it is true. I heard they were all brothers in the Episcopal Church, and I find them so." It was his maiden speech.

A few years ago I heard George William Curtis in one of his orations as he came back to his Alma Mater, describing a picture that he had seen in England; a forest road of winding beauty and overhanging trees; an old man and woman hand in hand walking along, both bowed, decrepit, feeble, and their eyes riveted upon a young couple in the distance, buoyant, elastic, with hope in their eyes. They were fascinated strangely, and all at once they realized that they were looking at themselves when they were young; they had met themselves. So to-night, my friends, I have met myself here as I came into St. Mary's Church only twenty-four years of age, bringing my young bride with me from her home in Rhode Island. I have met, to-night, those early friends whom I found

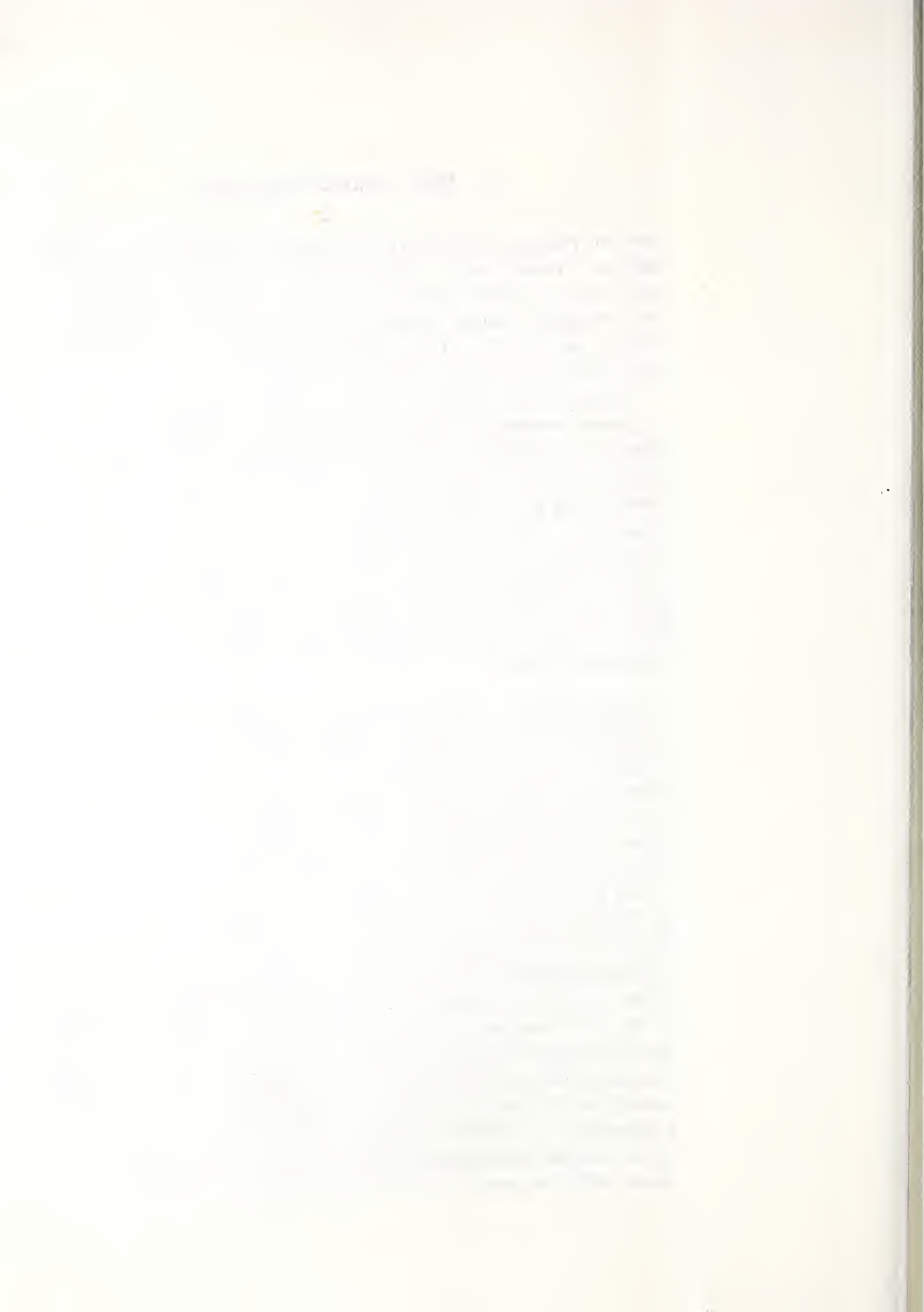


here, all young, all joyous, young husbands, young wives, and little children around them: Are they all past? No, for friendships were formed in those days which have continued as perennial as the springtime, and as fragrant as the summer flowers; friendships which I know will be resumed and renewed in that better world where there is no change except from glory to glory.

You keep your golden wedding. God's blessing rest upon it. A golden wedding between man and wife has always a touch of sadness. It is the sunset of life; we know the end is near; not so with the Parish life;—it is but the close of a day, as when the sun sinks to rest in cloudless splendor, the sure harbinger of a bright to-morrow. God grant to St. Mary's many such bright to-morrows, and when other voices take up the centennial strain, may they say of you, as truly as we can say of those who labored here in years gone by,—“Write: From henceforth, blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.”

*The Chairman:*—Some years ago, after having been in Europe, I remember the impression which was created in my mind when I stepped into Trinity Church, New York. I had gone into that church just before I went to Europe, and then on my return I went into the church again. After visiting those great cathedrals abroad, Trinity Church, New York, which had once appeared so large to me, now seemed quite a small building in comparison.

Our Bishop has been, this summer, at Canterbury, and at the old St. Martin's Church, going back to the time when Ethelbert was baptized; although the structure, as it stands to-day, may not be the actual church of Ethelbert, it is, nevertheless, made up of some of the old Roman stones of the earlier building, and is, in fact, one of the most venerable Church buildings in England to-day;—the Bishop has been engaged in Services which had to do with a work that began thirteen hundred years ago; and you know last May the Bishop was interested in the one hundredth anniversary of the Consecration of the first Bishop of Massachusetts. A short time before that he had preached, I think, a sermon commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of St. Paul's Church. I wonder how it



seems to him, now, to be asked to say something about a Church which can only say that it is fifty years old. To us that seems a long time, but to one who has been carried back, in imagination, to a church thirteen hundred years old, it may be this occasion will not have the same importance to him that it does to us, but we like to think that in this fifty years there have been influences exerted whose results are not to be measured by years. It is, therefore, with great pleasure that I ask the Bishop of Massachusetts to speak to you.

ADDRESS OF THE RT. REV. WILLIAM LAWRENCE, D. D.

St. Mary's, Dorchester, represents an excellent type of a suburban Parish in this, that the people did not wait for Boston to come out to them, but they bought a lot and built such a church as they could, and worshiped in that until a larger population came. Then they bought another lot and enlarged their church, making it more adequate and convenient. With the changes in the community, the Parish has changed, although a few of the ancient stock have remained. At the same time the work has gone on, with a deepening sense of responsibility on the part of the people for the uplifting and welfare not only of the Parish but of the whole community; so that St. Mary's, Dorchester, now, so far from being a suburban Parish, outside of the city, is one of the Parishes within the city, doing its work as a city Church, with its city methods.

It is also a type of a suburban Parish near Boston, in this, that it has been thoroughly American in its Churchmanship; that is, loyal to the Episcopal Church, and at the same time recognizing the traditions of the Puritans and the glory of the religious life of Massachusetts of the last two centuries. Thus the Church, coming among them, has led many of them to her as offering larger opportunities for the expression of the Christian faith and life of England's descendants.

There is another point, as one thinks of the money that has been put into the Parish of St. Mary. It may be rather a mundane point, but one that is worth recognizing, for there is a feeling on the part of a great many in the community that Churches are

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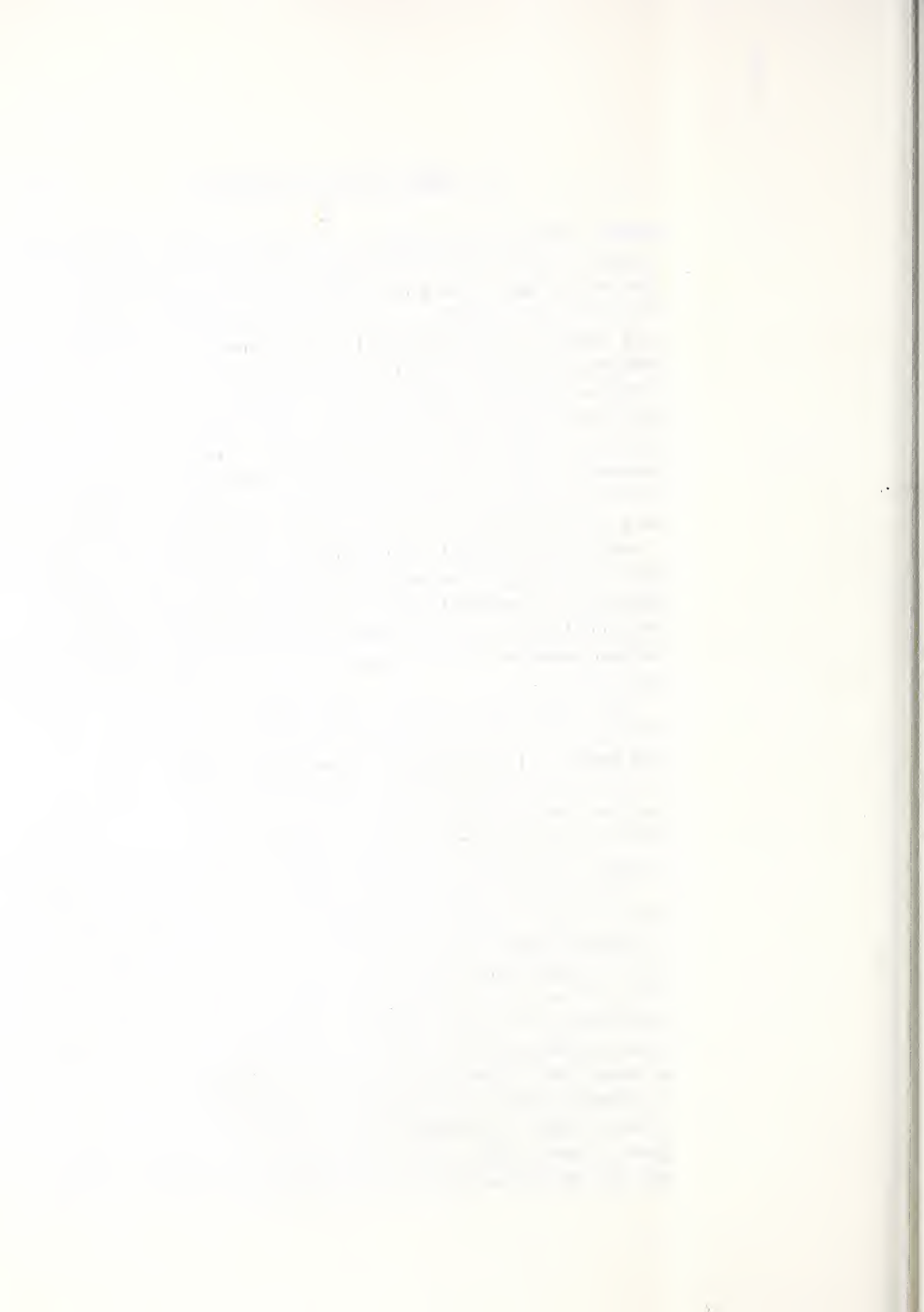


hardly worth the expenditure of money and the freedom from taxation. Now, if we consider the comparatively few thousands of dollars that have gone into St. Mary's Church, into the building, the work, and the Minister's salary, and then if we take that sum and compare it with any of the same number of thousands of dollars that have been spent in Dorchester or in Boston apart from religious work, we realize what an enormous interest the money bears that is put into Church life for the public good and in the uplifting of the character of the people. When one thinks how millions of dollars have been lost in commerce, in railroads, in business, one must recognize from the ordinary business point of view that money put into the Church is economically used, and as a rule is safely invested; that it brings forth the best fruits in the spiritual uplifting of the people; that it goes largely into engaging the services of spiritual men, in order that, by their preaching and ministerial offices, they may lead the people, and that those people in their homes may be strengthened in their religious and moral character.

After hearing the eloquent words and reminiscences of Mr. Drown, one feels that what he has to say is commonplace, and in a way modern. It is certainly well that once in a while we should be brought back to remember the sacrifices of those who entered into the first work of our earlier Churches, and into the beautiful characters which have gone toward the upbuilding of many of our Parishes. Sometimes we wonder whether we find the same beauty of character and gentleness in those who are supporting our Churches now. I rather think that we do have the same beauties of character, only expressed in more modern form. Those men were interested in the Church, and gave of their time and thought; and it is one of the satisfactory features of St. Mary's Church, satisfactory to us all, to myself as Bishop, and to the Rector, I know, that the men of St. Mary's in the last ten years have, many of them, given of their time and their best thought to the work of St. Mary's Church and to this Phillips Brooks Club.

The Parish is, as much as any Church in or near Boston, a Parish of men; men who are interested in the Church's welfare; men who, we believe, give to the community illustrations of such





spiritual life as St. Mary's will be gratified to remember in the next century.

It is a very great pleasure to come among you, representing to you the Church in the Diocese, and to give a blessing and a hearty God-speed to St. Mary's, Dorchester, for the next half century.

*The Chairman* : — Mr. Mills, the third Rector of St. Mary's, as you know, died a few years ago. It would have been pleasant if we could have had him with us on this occasion. The work of his ministry was described yesterday, and emphasis was placed upon the value of that long pastorate of thirteen or fourteen years. Mr. Silvester, the fourth Rector, wrote me that it would be impossible for him to leave his work at this time on account of the consecration of his own church. Perhaps you read in the afternoon paper that that consecration took place to-day, — a building valued at \$500,000.

Mr. Saltonstall told me to-day that he felt that he had said his word yesterday, and that there was very little that he could say in addition. There was one thing, nevertheless, to which there was no allusion in the sermon yesterday, and I am going to take the liberty of mentioning it here. The preacher said very little of his own work at a most critical time. I think of the years after the burning of the church, and before the building of the new church, as the really most critical period in St. Mary's history. If I am not mistaken, after the old St. Mary's was burned, there was a feeling that perhaps it was not wise to undertake to build a new one. Some of the substantial subscribers to the old church had moved away; annexation to the City of Boston had brought about a great change in the character of the Town of Dorchester, and it looked for a time very dark for the Parish. I believe it was largely due to my predecessor that St. Mary's Church was perpetuated in the new building. He not only insisted upon the building of a new church, but he did what very few of us would be willing to do, and what very few of us would be able to do. He went, as we were told by the very slightest suggestion yesterday, "from Bar Harbor to Newport," trying to raise the funds for the new St. Mary's Church, securing \$8,000, which was a large



percentage of the amount which went into the new building. I would be very glad to have Mr. Saltonstall speak a few words to you concerning the erection of St. Mary's Church.

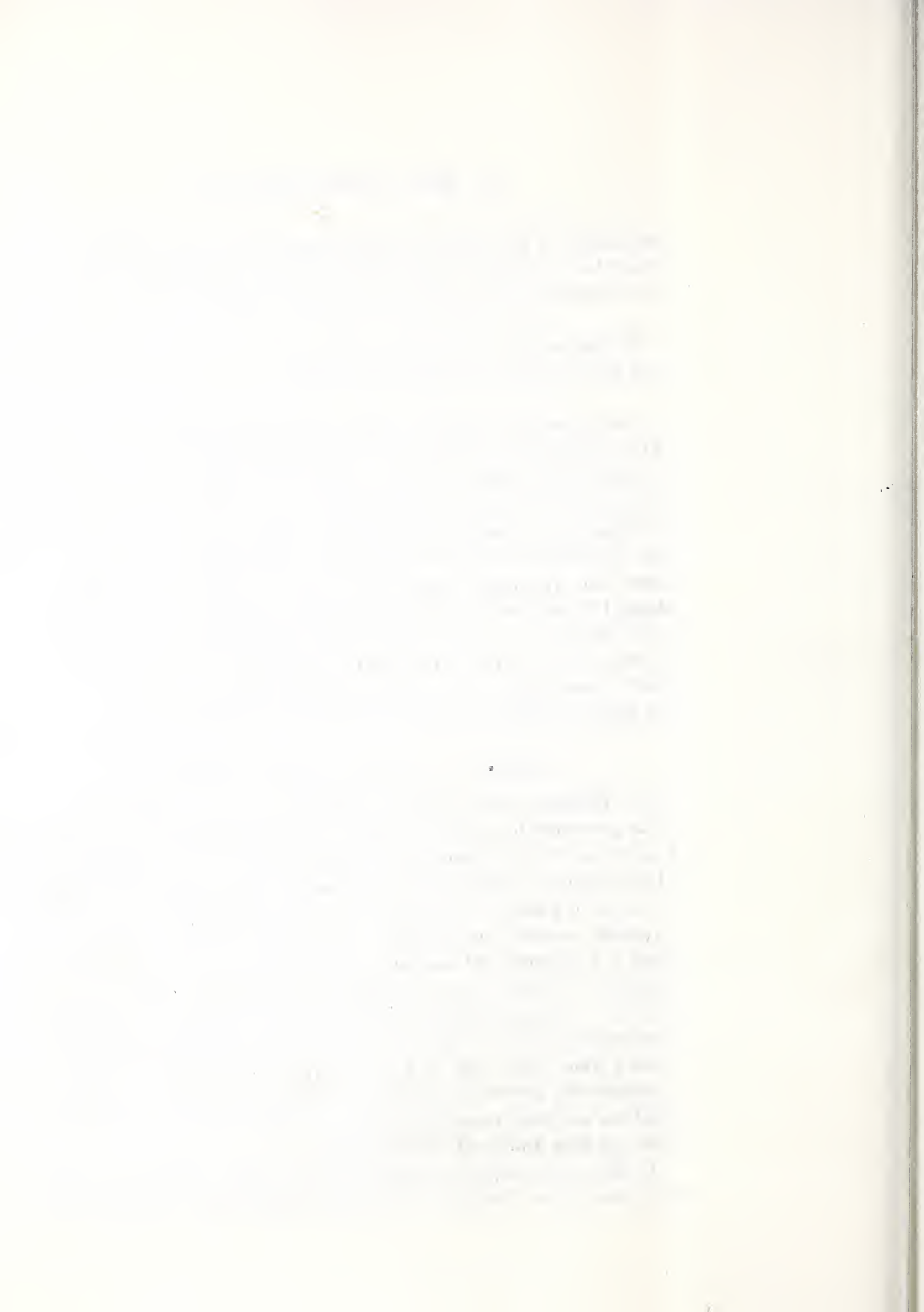
Mr. Saltonstall said that he had told his story the day before, and did not care to say anything further.

*The Chairman* : — In the sermon yesterday, mention was made of the ministry of Mr. Silvester in connection with St. Ann's. It was the child of St. Mary's Church. I do not know how it came about, but this child passed into the hands of St. James's and her Rector. It became the adopted child of St. James's. I have been told that St. James's Church is the mother of St. Mary's Church ; that years and years ago, some of St. James's people in Dorchester thought of this new work, and had an active part in the beginning of St. Mary's. We shall be glad to hear what the Rev. Percy Browne has to say to us about his recollections of St. Mary's, twenty years ago, and St. Ann's. I take pleasure in presenting the Rev. Percy Browne, Rector of St. James's Church, Roxbury.

ADDRESS OF THE REV. PERCY BROWNE.

*Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen* : — I count it a privilege to be permitted to express to you the congratulations of St. James's Church upon the completion of your fifty years of parochial life. Her greeting is emphasized by the fact that she claims St. Mary's as one of her numerous offspring. She has been in her sixty years a prolific mother of Parishes. St. John's, Jamaica Plain, St. Mark's, St. John's and St. Ann's Churches, in Boston, were either founded or nursed into strength by the devoted people of St. James's. It may be that her claim to be the mother of St. Mary's rests only on the fact that in its early years your Parish was recruited from ours. But, in any case, you will pardon the claim of a mother who sometimes makes mistakes in counting her numerous children, and who naturally desires to include amongst them one more vigorous and handsome daughter.

In his remarks upon the religious life of Boston during the last fifty years, your President has rightly enlarged this occasion into



one of more than parochial interest. But he omitted one striking fact; namely, that the Episcopal church in the years in which she was exposed to the suspicion and dislike of this community grew as vigorously as in recent years when that dislike has passed away. Whether or not we can explain the fact, it remains true that although our Church has increased numerically, relatively to the growth of Boston's population her increase has not seemed to keep pace with the growth of the community's good-will towards her, so characteristic of recent years.

Forty years ago there existed within the city's limits Christ Church, Trinity, St. Paul's, Grace Church, the Church of the Advent, and the Church of the Messiah. Soon afterwards, Emmanuel, St. Mark's, and the Good Shepherd were added to the list, and all these Churches had grown into strength long before the Boston atmosphere was cleared of its inherited dislike of Episcopacy. Within the same geographical limits to-day we have to note two places made vacant by the extinction of Grace Church and St. Mark's, a loss not more than compensated for by the few missionary Parishes which have recently come into existence. We have to note also the fact that the surviving Parishes, although vigorous, have not grown much beyond the strength which they attained at the beginning of our half-century. Trinity may be regarded as an exception, but St. Paul's and Emmanuel, even in the full tide of their present prosperity, must recognize the great and far-reaching character of the work conducted by Alexander H. Vinton and Frederick D. Huntington in their respective Parishes nearly forty years ago.

This slow growth of our Church in a community which has long since ceased to antagonize it, makes one suspect that Boston's present amiable attitude towards our communion is the result, not so much of appreciation of its character, as of that indifference to all forms of organized Christianity so characteristic of a large section of New England life to-day. The evangelist, Mr. Mills, who is endeavoring to raise the temperature of Unitarianism by radiating the warmth supplied by his former connection with an evangelical denomination, recently said that it was illiberal to care whether one were an Episcopalian or Unitarian, — a statement to





which he gave a dubious emphasis by the story of a man who, on the eve of his marriage, startled his *fiancée* by declaring that he could not conscientiously marry her until he had confessed something that burdened his mind. To the agitated lady's inquiry about the nature of the dreadful secret he replied: "I must tell you that I am a somnambulist!" "Do not let that trouble you," answered the liberally trained young woman; "we can compromise; there is not much difference; if you will come with me in the morning to the Methodists, I will go with you in the evening to the somnambulists."

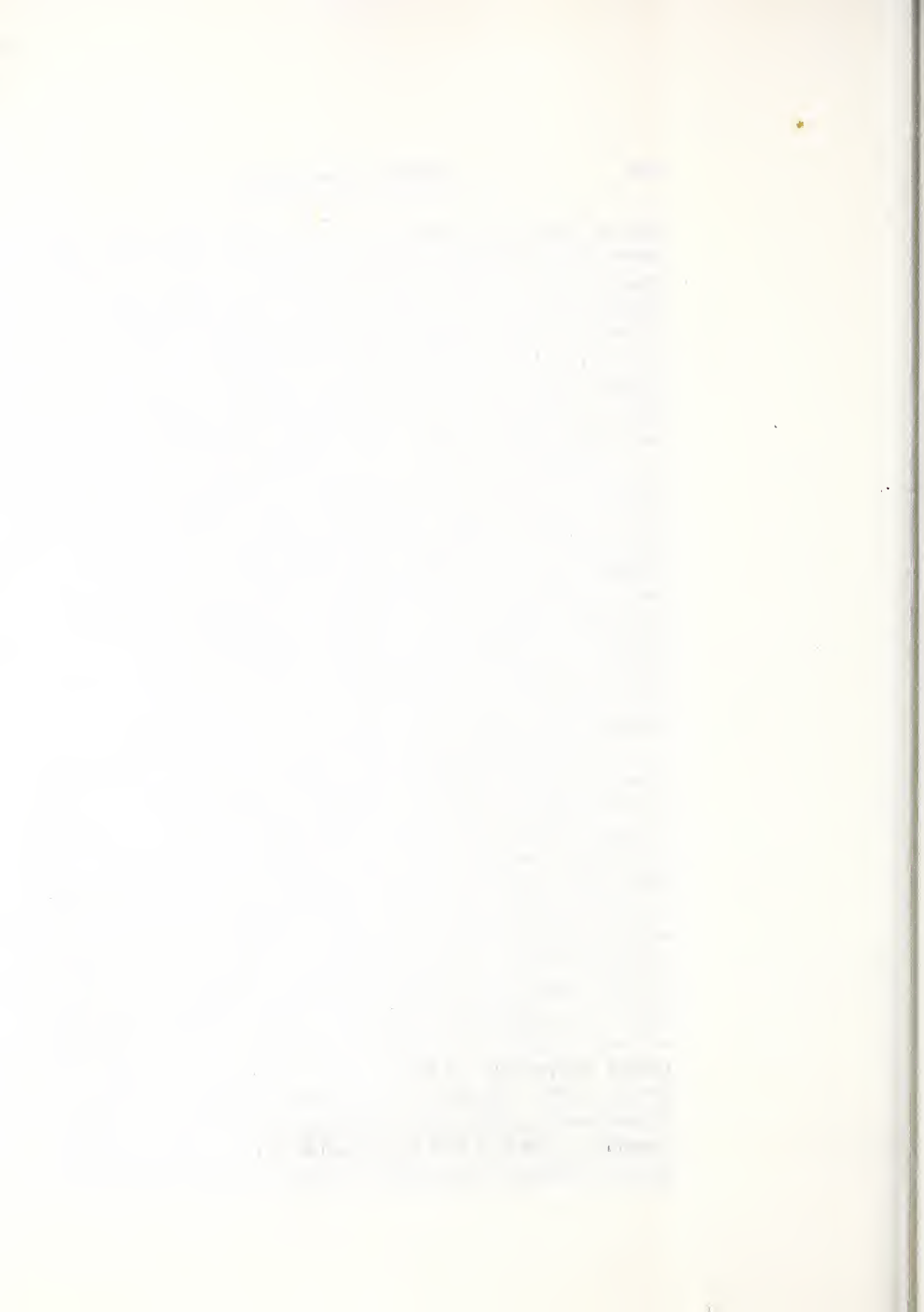
Let us hope, however, that Boston's kindly feeling towards Episcopacy is due, not to such indifference, but to an increasing appreciation of our Church, which through the last fifty years has, by the presentation of its many-sided and inclusive character, given a larger Church ideal to a community accustomed to denominationalism which expressed but one leading doctrine and method of Christian culture. Certainly, men like Dr. Vinton in St. Paul's, witnessing for what is best in Evangelicism; Dr. Croswell in the Advent, for what is best in Sacerdotalism, and Bishop Huntington in Emmanuel, for moderate Institutionalism, must have led thoughtful minds to recognize in our Church something larger than a sect. Certainly it would have been presented to this community as a sect if, during the last fifty years, only one type of Churchmanship had preached from her pulpits and ministered at her altars. Let us be thankful that our Church in Boston has risen above sectarianism by her free proclamation of the evangelical appeal to the personal soul, by her institutional appeal to the sense of corporate privilege and responsibility, and by the interpreting spirit of Broad Churchmanship seeking to unfold the larger aspects of the Faith in which so many diverse schools of thought find true Catholic unity—the unity of the Spirit.

It is impossible to speak of the influences which have developed our Church in the last fifty years without thinking of him after whom you have named your Club—the man who did more than any other to clear the Boston atmosphere of its misapprehension of the true character of our communion, and who led multitudes out of religious indifference, agnosticism, materialism and sin into the



light of her divine teaching. It is true that by the power of his genius, by the fascination of his manhood, by the purity of his character and by the warmth radiating from his loving heart, Phillips Brooks unconsciously drew men close to himself, but only to find him a door through which they passed into a vision of God, humanity and the Church which met the deepest needs of their intellect and heart. It was in and through the teaching of the Church which he so nobly served that he saw this vision for himself and made it real to others. His loyalty to the Church was based on a deeper appreciation of its character than could find expression in any boast of its pedigree. In his apostolic proclamation of Christ for the world and for the individual soul; in his conception of the Church and its doctrines as constituting the noblest voice through which that proclamation could be made, men saw the proof of its apostolic lineage. Too loyal to use her name as a defiant shibboleth, by what he was and what he taught and practiced he commended the Church's spirit to the people of our city with a fullness which poured life not only into his own, but also into all our Parishes, as the same tide that fills the widest harbor fills the smallest inlets of the sea.

It was natural that such a man should have been condemned by some for what they called his unchurchliness and by others accused of unsoundness in the faith. Within the large toleration of our Church there must always be found those who fail to recognize ecclesiastical loyalty apart from denunciation of non-Episcopal Christianity, and who cannot recognize our doctrines unless expressed in terms of their own narrow interpretation of them. It was impossible for Brooks to satisfy such tests. His loyalty was too deep and sure to need the support of a discourteous treatment of other communions, and his conception of the Church's formularies as the expression of universal world-encircling truths could not seem familiar to those who were unable to look beyond their limited interpretation of them. As a child fails to recognize its familiar rubber ring when a strong hand expands it to its utmost circumference, so there were many honest Churchmen who failed to recognize in Phillips Brooks' expansion of the Church's doctrines their own shrunken conception of them which they called Ortho-



doxy. It was the case of men of narrow perception honestly fearing the larger interpretation of a spiritual genius as heresy. Between them it was but a question of the size of the circle of divine truth within which he and they lived together.

As we think of the influence of Phillips Brooks's ministry in thus developing the Church of his love in the city of his love, what more loyal hope for her future can we cherish than that all her members may be inspired by his lofty belief in man's spiritual possibilities, his large hope for man's eternal destiny, and his earnest insistence on the comprehensive character of the Church of Christ?

*The Chairman* : — In all that has been said about St. Mary's Church, there was one large element in its life which has not been emphasized perhaps as much as it deserves, — and that is the missionary character which has always been revealed in her life and thought. We are interested to learn that St. Mary's has sent out, as you have heard to-night, two Clergymen who are doing strong work, — two young men in one family; and there were two young women in that same family also, who went out to do distinctly missionary work. We have with us this evening the Honorary Secretary of the Board of Missions, and it is a great pleasure to me to be able to introduce to you Mrs. Twing, who will speak to us, perhaps, of her recollections of St. Mary's.

ADDRESS OF MRS. A. T. TWING.

[MARY A. EMERY.]

Although I cannot plead entire unfamiliarity with public speaking, this is the first time that I have ever been called upon to make an after-dinner speech. Probably it is because I am one of the two or three persons present whose memory stretches back to the Services and Sunday School in Lyceum Hall, and to the consecration of the old St. Mary's Church. I remember well being held up, as a child, upon the seat of the pew, and watching with great interest my father walking in the procession. A later memory is that of the early meetings of the Ladies' Aid Society, when it was held at my mother's house, always a very interesting time to us





children. Afterwards I had my own share to take in that same society, and my own personal interests in the other work of the Parish. It became the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society under the rectorship of the Rev. Mr. Mills, who, when he came to us, seemed to open wide the windows of our Parish life, teaching us to look far out into the outside world around. It was he who led us to realize that the Parish to which we belonged, and which we so dearly loved, was only a part of that great Church, the Holy Catholic Church, in which we said we believed whenever we repeated the Apostles' Creed. He invited Missionaries, and the representatives of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, to address us and to lay before us the needs of distant fields; and he himself followed up their appeals by instructing us in our duty as a people and as individuals regarding them.

It is a pleasure to me to come back to you to-day, after many years of absence, to look into so many familiar faces, to take so many dear friends by the hand, to listen again to the voice of the first Rector of this Parish, who baptized me in my earliest childhood, to meet once more the second Rector who was so dear to us as children; but the memory of Mr. Mills is very precious in our family, for to him we feel we chiefly owe our interest in the wider work of the Church at large. In its early days St. Mary's used sometimes to be called, by those who were not so happy as to belong to the Parish, "the Mutual Admiration Society." We were indeed a very happy people; perhaps we thought too much of ourselves or of each other; but from Mr. Mills's lips, and from his example, we learned a lesson of unselfishness, and of care for those other sheep outside the fold, never to be forgotten.

In the years that have gone by since the days of his ministry among us, I have been permitted to see the work of the Church in all parts of our own country, from the lumbering regions of Maine to the mining camps of California, from the Indian Missions of Minnesota to the Missions to the negroes of the far-distant South, and even beyond the borders of this land of ours, far away into China and in Japan. Not only there, but everywhere that I have been—in Ceylon, in India, in Egypt, in Palestine, in Greece, in the more familiar parts of Europe, wherever English-speaking





people are to be found — there always may be found also the Services of the Book of Common Prayer, as we use it ourselves or as it is used in the Mother Church of England, translated into many other languages, and dear to many different peoples and tribes of dusky hue, who have been turned from darkness to light by the labors of our own Missionaries or those of the English Church. And it is because I have there seen realized the vision of greater and more glorious things than can be seen even in the most successful Parish life, that I look back to-day with gratitude to the teacher who first opened that vision to my mental gaze, and to the early days of that Parish whose Fiftieth Anniversary we are now celebrating.

Before me are many unfamiliar faces, but they are friendly to me because we have all belonged to the same Parish home. May this larger vision of the Church of Christ be always ours, and may we all meet again in that brighter home above, where alone that vision shall at last be perfectly and forever fulfilled.

*The Chairman:* — I remember the last time that Bishop Brooks was at my house, that he said to me, "There is nobody who is so interested, or ought to be so interested, in a Church as the Senior Warden;" one who has given, perhaps as no one else, his life, time and money to the work of the Church where he is interested. We have with us to-night our former Senior Warden, who has been for forty years a member of the Vestry of St. Mary's Church. It is a great pleasure and privilege to me to be able to introduce Mr. Bradford, and ask him to say a few words to us this evening.

ADDRESS OF MR. MARTIN L. BRADFORD.

Mr. President, the remark that Bishop Brooks made in regard to Wardens was eminently applicable to the Senior Warden who preceded me, with whom I was associated as Junior Warden a great many years, the late John P. Clapp, who for one year acted as Junior Warden, and then for thirty-six years filled the office of Senior Warden during the ministry of no less than five of the six Rectors who have ministered to this Parish during the last fifty years. Of him it may be truly said he always upheld the hands of

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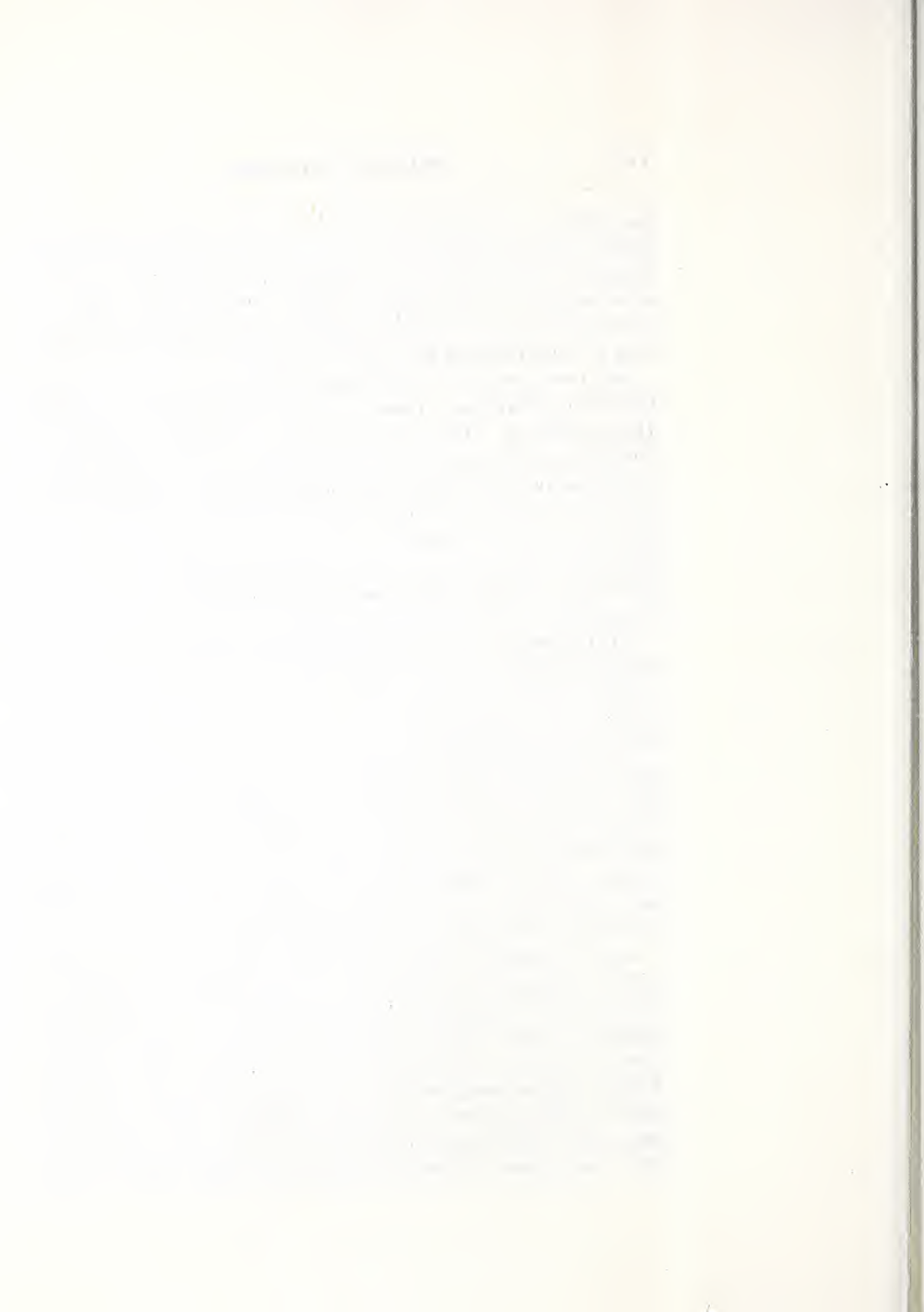
thirtieth part of the paper discusses the importance of the

the Rector. We might well speak of him as the father of this Parish, and so regarding him, we may then say that St. James's, Roxbury, is the mother of the Parish, for Col. Clapp and his wife were members of St. James's Church. When this Church was started he was one of its first organizers, and from the very beginning until his death he labored for its welfare.

But there have been other men who have served St. Mary's faithfully as Wardens. There was Mr. James Jenkins, whom Mr. Drown spoke of. He was a very ardent, earnest man. He labored faithfully the few years he was in St. Mary's, and was very active in promoting the first enlargement of the Church. A disaster overwhelmed his business, and in 1857 or 1858 he went out west to begin life anew in Oshkosh. There he became a very active Churchman. He was the right hand Layman of the Bishop of Wisconsin, and many times represented that Diocese in the General Convention. He was a typical Northwestern Churchman.

Mr. William W. Page served many years as Junior Warden and as Superintendent of the Sunday School, and in other ways was a faithful worker. Mr. Daniel B. Stedman, Jr., was with us, serving fourteen years as Warden, and also in that most thankless of all Parish offices, the treasurership; for the Treasurer is always abused by every debtor and every creditor of the Parish. He does a great deal of hard work, and receives no pecuniary compensation for it, but only abuse from every side. But patiently, faithfully, Mr. Stedman labored, as other members of the Parish have done in that capacity. Some of those here present can testify to the reality of those experiences; and Mr. Albert A. Chittenden has given faithful service as Junior Warden, Vestryman and Treasurer.

And then always behind these have been the body of earnest, faithful Vestrymen. Mr. Drown has spoken of the character of the men who constituted the Vestry in his day. It is a good description of those who have followed from that day until now; and there is this that may be said of the influence of Col. Clapp as Warden and presiding officer of the Vestry: He was a wise counsellor, a truly godly man, a man who was always for harmony and peace, and I think that characteristic has belonged to this Parish. There have been, of course, differences, as there always will be.





MARTIN L. BRADFORD.





Where live and earnest men are at work on anything that they are interested in, they cannot always be of one mind, but quarrels there were none, and very little gossip. The influence of Col. Clapp has, I think, extended down through the years, and that has been the character of the successive Vestries.

I need not speak of the present officers of the Parish. You know them and their character. The Parish is in good hands, and will go on, I have no doubt, in the future, to increased usefulness in this community.

*The Chairman*,—I have pleasure in introducing to you Dr. Clarence J. Blake of Boston, to whom we are indebted for the beautiful prayer desk recently placed in St. Mary's Church.

ADDRESS OF DR. CLARENCE J. BLAKE.

Mr. Rector, members of the Club bearing the name of him who inspired men to live, and who dying urged into earnest life thousands of men who might not have lived so well or earnestly without him; friends—may I say Dorchester brethren?—members of St. Mary's Parish: I stand here your debtor, to thank you for giving me the opportunity of replacing in your church the memorial to my grandfather, the Rev. James Blake Howe; the memorial placed in the first St. Mary's Church by my father and my dear mother, the Rev. James Blake Howe's daughter, and destroyed by the fire which destroyed the first church.

Dr. Blake then gave a very interesting account of some of his ancestors, early settlers of Dorchester, and of family alliances between them, from which sprang some of the former members of St. Mary's in its earliest days, and then closed with these words:—

I go back with you, friends of St. Mary's, Dorchester, back to the old Dorchester settlement, to the people whose sinew is in St. Mary's Church, men and women who were not afraid to die, and valued life only so long as it ran between those two parallel lines of honor and service. (Applause.)



*The Chairman* : — I am going to ask Mr. Henry A. Clapp, as our last speaker, to say something to us.

ADDRESS OF MR. HENRY A. CLAPP.

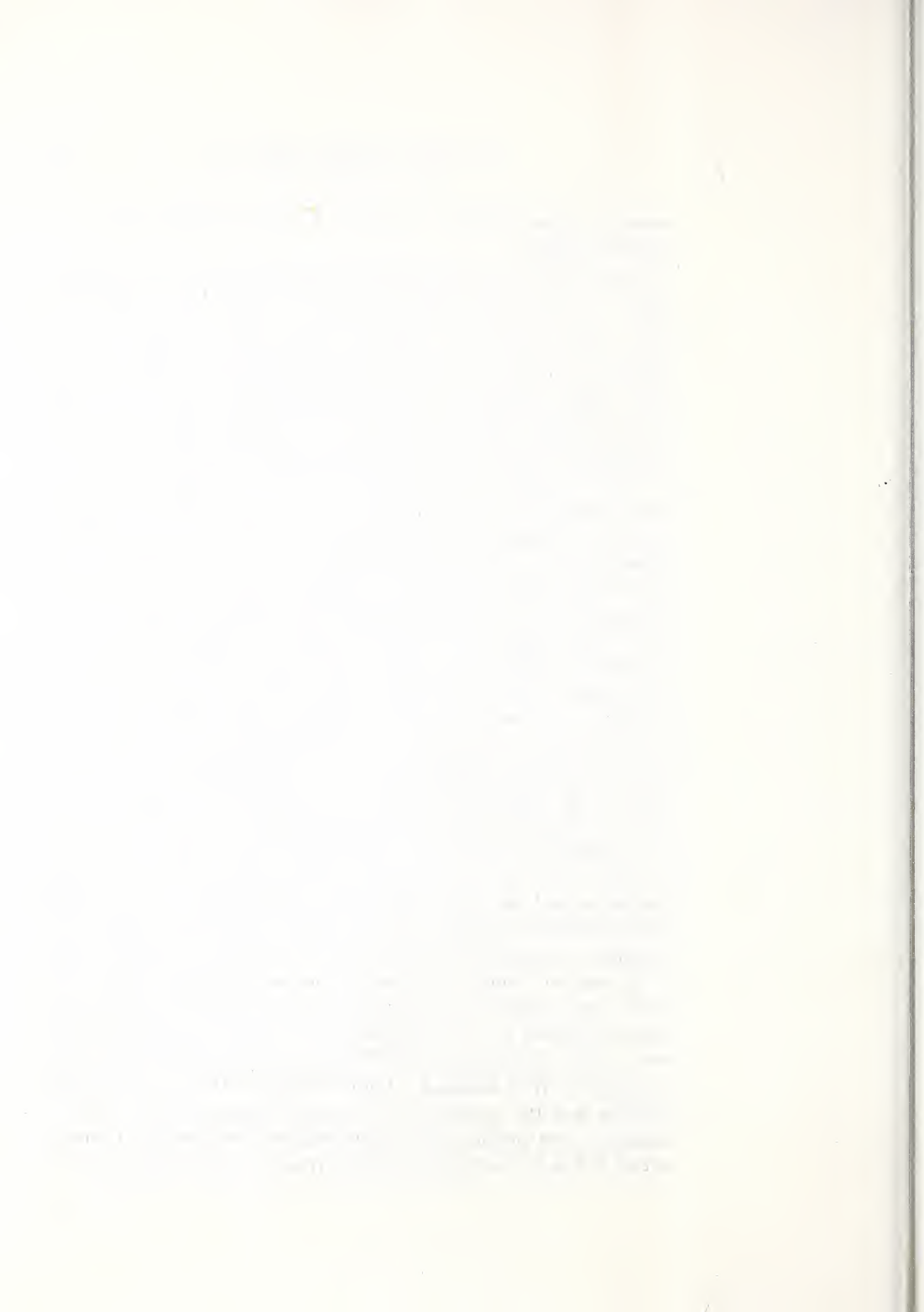
*Mr. Chairman and Ladies and Gentlemen*, — It is a matter of no importance to you at all, but as I stand here it occurs to me that my own little life has been almost exactly contemporaneous with that of this great Parish. It is many years since I have been actively associated with its membership; but if the years were twice as many, if it were possible I should be speaking to you now at the age of eighty instead of fifty, it must be that I should look upon you and upon such an occasion with peculiar emotion, and that as a man I should feel towards this Church as I can never possibly feel, I suppose, toward any other.

Perhaps the few words that I shall say in the next moment would not have been spoken were it not for what Mr. Bradford has said, and what I have to say will have no meaning to two-thirds of you; but the other third to whom I speak, whose eyes I look into now, will understand how sincerely I utter myself when I say that my feeling as a son towards this Parish is peculiar. You are one living entity. The Parish never dies. *You* made and kept my father Warden of your Church, — associated with Mr. Bradford, with Mr. W. W. Page, and with Mr. Daniel B. Stedman, junior, — for thirty-seven years. He was not a great man at all. He was not a man of exceptional force, perhaps not even of moderate force. He was simply a good man, gentle and sweet, one in whom there was no guile; and he had a certain power, which I should not have ventured to characterize, myself, but for Mr. Bradford's words, — something of that heavenly wisdom with which the Lord often inspires His obedient children when they are not possessed of intellects of the first order. But my feeling toward you is peculiar. You made him happy. If he had had his choice, he would rather have been Warden of St. Mary's Church than Emperor of the Russias. Though I never heard him say the words, I know that for year after year his large, tender soul was filled with joy and gratitude that he was allowed by you to have the privilege of ministering in his own humble way as one of the



servants of your Parish. For that, accept my sincere and most grateful thanks.

This Parish covers the period in Massachusetts from the beginning of the Episcopal revival till now. I am a little disposed to take issue with my dear friend, the Rev. Mr. Browne, on his statistics; but whether his statistics for the last twenty years are right or not, I can answer for the facts as they were fifty-one years ago. Before St. Mary's Church was begun there were in old Boston (excluding South Boston) and in Roxbury and Dorchester, exactly eight Parishes of the Episcopal Church, with a membership of 1,600 or 1,700 communicants. There are twenty-three to-day, with a membership of more than 10,000. Just before St. Mary's Church was organized, the beautiful, loving and sagacious Bishop Griswold ministered as the chief pastor of the New England Diocese, which included Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts; and now Massachusetts alone, under the lead of our noble chief pastor, is the third Diocese in the whole United States of America. What the changes have been in the last twenty or thirty years I am not sure about. Do not be afraid that I am going into history. I am not; I simply desire to present to you the fact that when the old Parish was formed and begun worshiping in Lyceum Hall, the community was just beginning to be ripe and ready for the Episcopal Church. I do not deny or disparage the value of the great Puritan teachings, but we all know how much the Episcopal Church was needed by the State of Massachusetts. It was weak, it is strong; it was scorned, and to-day it has the reputation, and the advantages and disadvantages, of being the most fashionable Church in the eastern part of Massachusetts. But when it came into Dorchester—a fact which is not known to all of you—it came into one of the most simple, bucolic and rustic communities that you could imagine. Dorchester, fifty years ago, was marked by a singular rusticity and curious puritanic stiffness. The old hostility of the Puritans existed there as in very few places in New England. Both because of the strong Puritan tradition and the association of the early Episcopalians with the Crown, the old prejudice was strong against the Episcopal Church, so that it was not introduced without trouble, without opposition.



I remember that at a time about ten years after Mr. Drown became Rector, when the Parish was beginning to flourish, when there were, I think, seventy couples who were recognized as heads of families in the Church, Mr. Bradford or some gentleman said, "Let us take a census of the seventy couples in our Parish, and see how many of them were brought up in the Episcopal Church." It was done; and of that seventy, it was found that just two couples had been brought up in the Episcopal Church, — that is, that three-fourths or four-fifths of the entire number were converts to the Episcopal Church; and the same experience is frequently repeated to-day. It has been the Church that has converted this end of Massachusetts without strife, without deliberate effort. Never was there a stronger testimony to what was needed by the people. It was offered with humility and simplicity, and, when it was fairly understood, was accepted with eagerness.

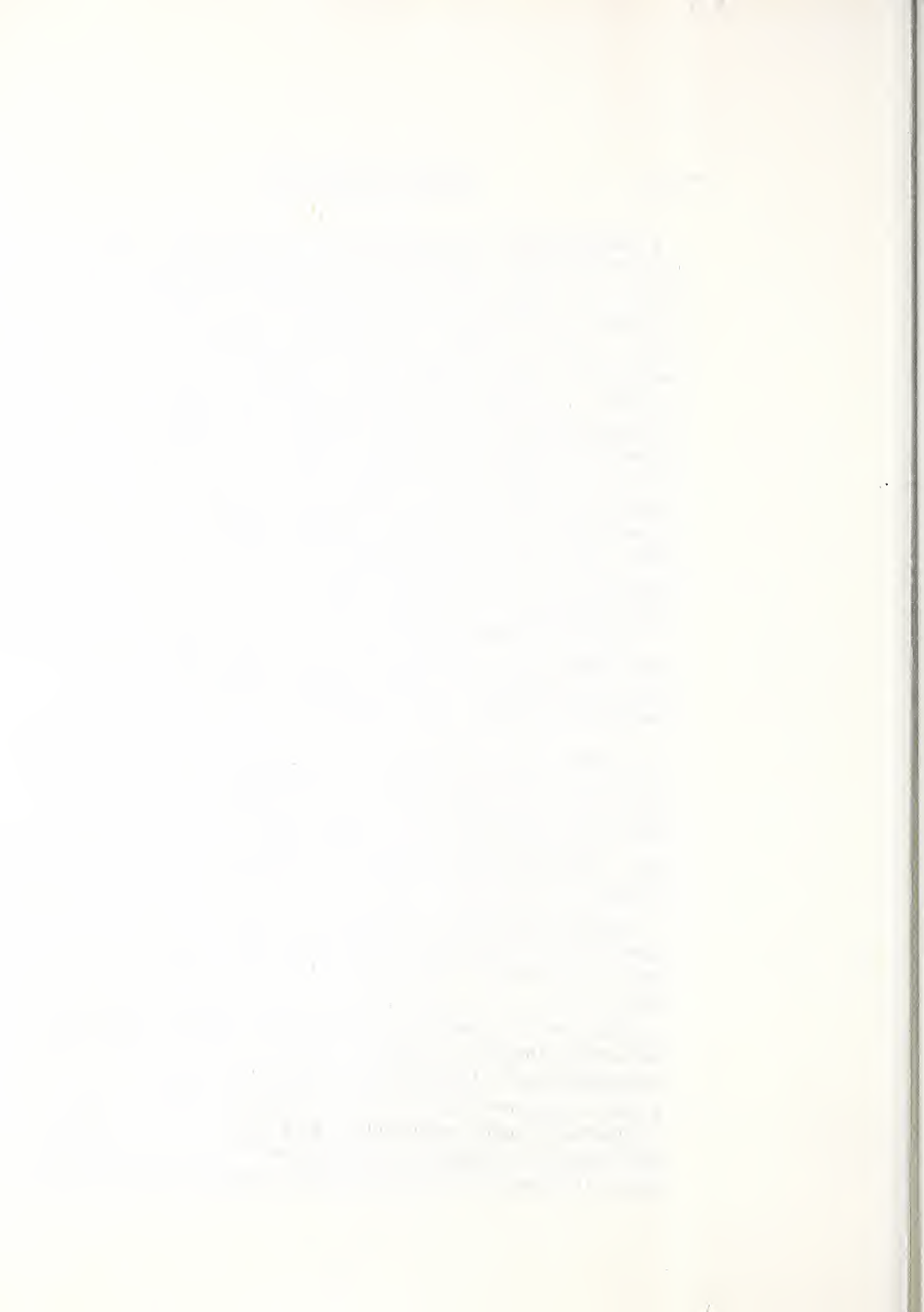
I will mention one thing more in the few minutes that remain to me. There are but three present in the room, and but few now living, who remember the Services in the old Lyceum Hall. Those three present are Mrs. Twing, Mr. Stimpson and myself.

Mr. Clapp then described the appearance of the old hall; related the various secular purposes, for amusement and otherwise, to which it was put during the week, and mentioned various people who were conspicuous in the work of the Church in those early days. He spoke of the curiosity excited by the appearance of the Clergyman in his official vestments, and then said:—

That was Dorchester in 1847; what it is now you know. Surely there has been a great gain. Episcopacy has not been crammed down the mouths of our people. They have asked for it and taken it.

Then came the change, to which I wish to devote one minute. We went to the site on Bowdoin Street, — and with that, all my associations are, so far as a child's could be, of a sacred sort. As I speak to you now, however, in my mind I step without the walls of the church, and some of you can go with me. It was a beautiful situation; it is beautiful no longer, but then it was fair exceedingly. On Sunday afternoons when the congregation was dismissed





many of the more sensitive would remain, to look upon the view to the West, and the weary Rector would pause to refresh his eyes with the fair landscape. The eye could sweep away through that long sloping valley up to the heights of our lovely Blue Hills. As I recall it now, I think of the words of the Psalmist, and know how they have come to some of you many times, especially in days of weariness, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." It was an ideal lot for a Parish Church, and the sunlight lay upon it in those golden afternoons like the very smile of God. You have gone now to a better place for your work, and your Church is grounded once more upon the granite rocks which make the ribs of Dorchester. Her foundations are on that granite, and though you do not have exactly that same view of the noble hills which once came to the parishioners of St. Mary's, you have it all in your hearts, the same view in the spirit, the same life of the soul. "As the hills stand about Jerusalem, even so standeth the Lord round about His people from this time forth for evermore."

*The Chairman* : — The hour is now so late that we cannot stay longer, but I am sure we all agree it has been good for us to be here.





# ST. MARY'S PARISH IN THE DIOCESE.

Parishes in Diocese.	Years Compared.	Sittings in St. Mary's.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.	No. of Communicants.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.	Sunday School.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.	CONTRIBUTED FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES.						Value of Parish Property.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.
											Not including Pew Rent and Taxes (until 1888).	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.	Without the Parish.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.	(Objects beyond the Diocese.	Parishes Reporting.	Rank of St. Mary's.
63	1850	216	....	....	45	61	36	40	54	36	\$50 00	44	39	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
62	1852	....	....	....	60	61	34	....	....	....	303 42	47	17	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
61	1854	....	....	....	60	60	34	30	52	45	724 09	48	13	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
74	1860	500	....	....	126	73	20	67	67	33	1,113 00	52	9	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
75	1861	....	....	....	94	74	31	81	69	30	586 06	56	16	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
82	1867	700	....	....	175	81	19	148	76	20	15,107 24	65	1	\$193 50	53	23	.....	.....	.....
97	1872	....	....	....	234	95	9	159	94	21	9,253 32	86	7	1,358 21	59	7	.....	.....	.....
113	1875	....	....	....	208	107	15	145	101	30	10,576 92	96	20	1,079 75	80	12	.....	.....	.....
117	1877	....	....	....	213	115	25	105	112	54	5,367 05	113	22	402 66	93	18	.....	.....	.....
120	1880	....	....	....	160	119	41	116	117	47	6,038 29	111	15	293 80	105	33	.....	.....	.....
170	1888	575	....	....	175	102	46	98	156	83	28,867 05	148	2	413 60	106	25	.....	.....	.....
187	1890	300	135	59	138	166	73	112	156	77	4,656 11	160	32	20 90	136	90	\$54 50	117	70
195	1892	285	154	83	150	180	67	128	172	79	9,076 07	176	15	141 08	147	45	300 81	128	39
194	1894	505	166	26	200	188	56	157	181	58	5,278 02	176	31	55 00	154	95	59 00	146	25
208	1897	505	172	23	276	196	43	173	186	50	7,137 00	202	26	842 48	154	14	273 00	120	35
														286 00	177	33	250 38	165	37
																	50,000 00	174	38

From 1861 the first column of "Contributions for Religious Purposes" includes "Parochial Objects" only, and "Objects *without* the Parish" are placed in a separate column. From 1888 the first column includes "All Parish Expenses," and that headed "Without the Parish" includes "Diocesan Objects," but not "Objects beyond the Diocese," which are thereafter separated.



## NOTES.

The foregoing Table gives the Rank of the Parish of St. Mary's in the Diocese as shown by Parochial Reports to the Convention at different periods during the half century of its existence, in the number of Communicants, the Contributions for Religious Purposes, etc., as stated in the headings of the several columns.

The form of Parochial Reports has been changed several times during the fifty years, and the reports rendered by the Parishes have been always more or less irregular and incomplete.

It will be seen by reference to the Table, that in no year has the same number of Parishes reported on any two items, except only that in the year 1892, out of 195 Parishes 154 reported both on Sitzings and Diocesan Objects, each of the other items being reported on by a different number.

## COMMUNICANTS, EASTER DAY.

A record kept of Communicants on Easter Day, shows the following numbers present:—

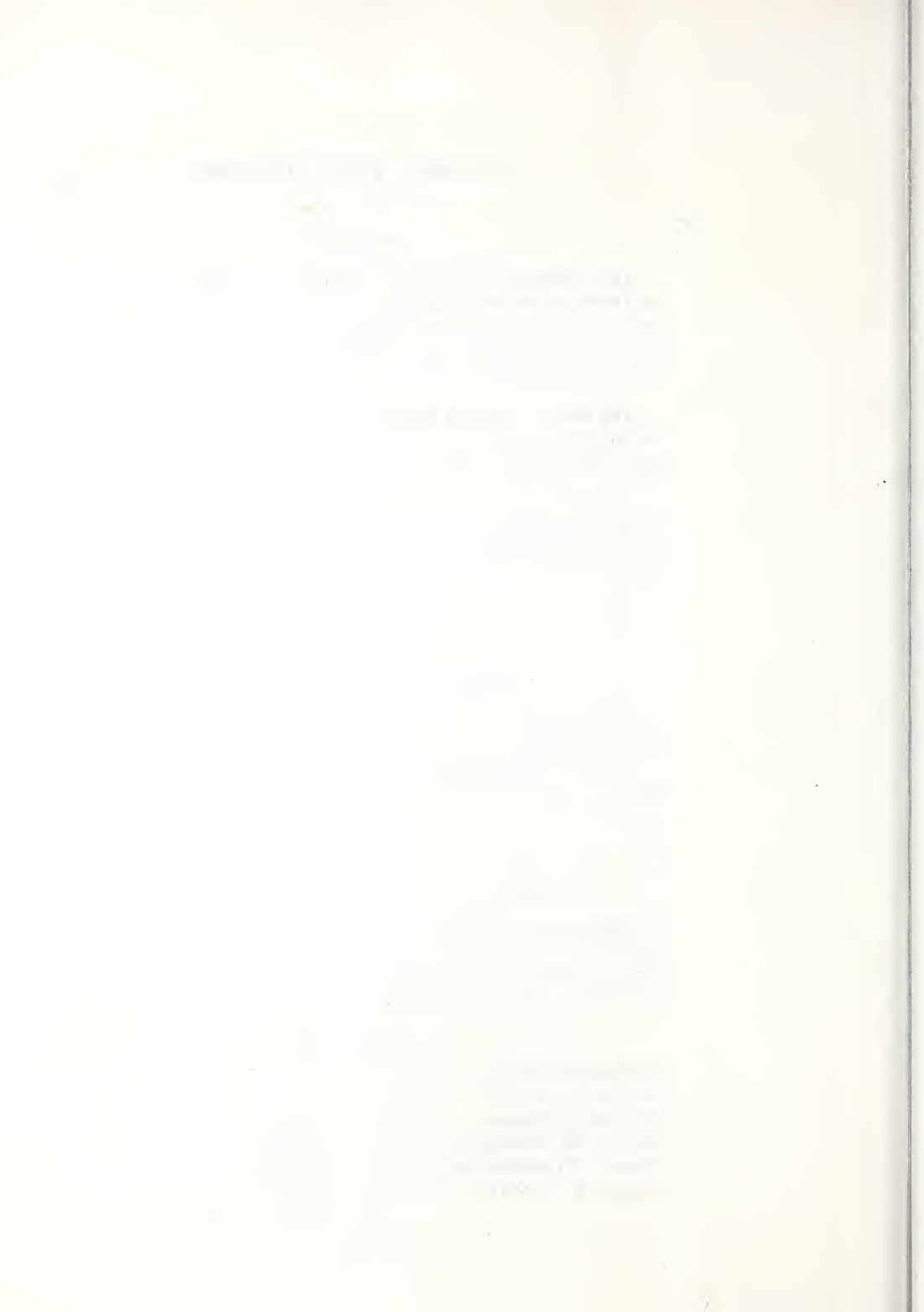
1855, 35; 1860, 57; 1862, 80; 1864, 122; 1870, 147; 1879, 134; 1889, 98; 1892, 150; 1895, 169; 1897, 199.

## OFFICERS OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY'S.

Below and on the following pages will be found a tabular view of the Officers of the Parish for the half century from its foundation, showing the names of those who have served St. Mary's Church in any capacity, and the number of years they held the positions to which they were elected.

## RECTORS.

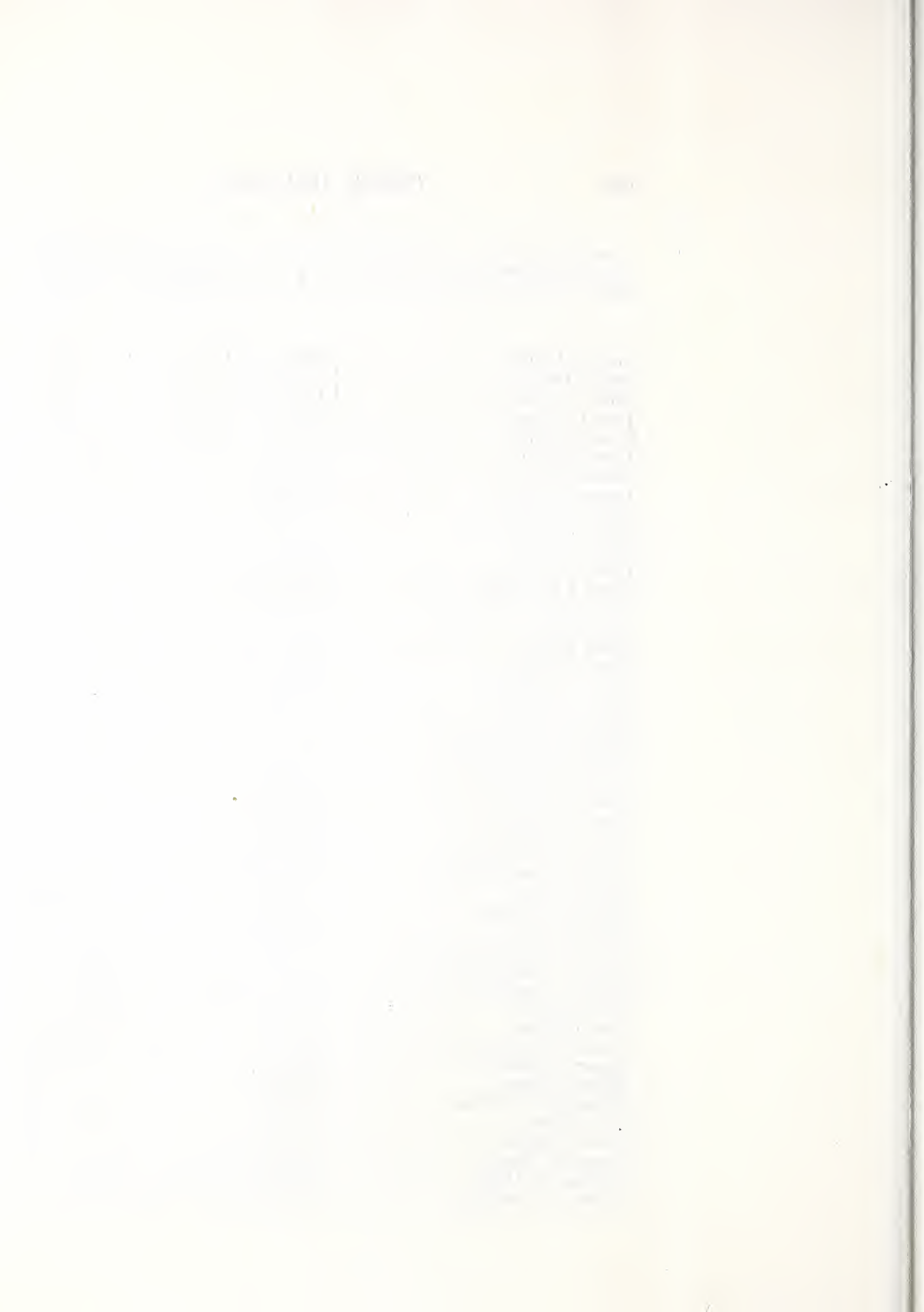
GEORGE W. PORTER,	Sept. 1, 1847 to Nov. 1, 1852.
EDWARD L. DROWN,	July 1, 1853 to Sept. 1, 1860.
WILLIAM H. MILLS,	Sept. 1, 1860 to April 5, 1874.
WILLIAM W. SILVESTER,	June 9, 1874 to March 3, 1878.
LINDALL WINTHROP SALTONSTALL,	May 12, 1878 to Nov. 25, 1891.
WALTER E. C. SMITH,	Feb. 14, 1892, now Rector.





The following gentlemen have served the Parish in the offices named in the several columns, for the number of years indicated.

	Between the years.	Clerk.	Senior Warden.	Junior Warden.	Vestryman.	Delegate to Diocesan Convention.	Treasurer.
Edward Holden .....	1847-50	4	.....	.....	3	2	3
Joseph Hooper .....	1847-49	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....
Robert Richardson .....	1847-54	.....	.....	2	5	1	.....
John P. Clapp .....	1847-85	.....	35	1	1	16	.....
Charles Stimpson .....	1847-69	.....	.....	1	22	13	.....
Francis A. Fuller .....	1847	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Thomas Hill .....	1847-50	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....
Henry A. Peters .....	1847-49	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
William Withington .....	1848	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....
William Elliott .....	1848	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Charles Emery .....	1849-88	.....	2	.....	29	8	2
John H. Welch .....	1849-52	.....	.....	2	1	1	.....
Edward W. Howe .....	1850-58	5	.....	.....	7	.....	5
Charles T. S. Townsend .....	1850	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Joseph Kirk .....	1850-52	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
James Jenkins .....	1851-59	.....	.....	3	5	4	.....
Charles Sumner .....	1851-57	.....	1	.....	6	2	.....
Mark W. Sheafe .....	1851-53	3	.....	.....	2	.....	2
Albert H. Stevens .....	1852-55	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....
Grenville Carter .....	1852	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Stephen H. Cleveland .....	1853-54	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Nathaniel W. Coffin .....	1855-68	.....	.....	.....	14	2	.....
Martin L. Bradford .....	1855-97	.....	5	10	23	27	.....
John T. Clark .....	1855-74	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....
George H. Vincent .....	1855-58	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Moses G. Cobb .....	1855-59	.....	.....	.....	5	1	.....
Charles C. Holbrook .....	1856-58	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Daniel B. Stedman, Sr. ....	1857-72	.....	.....	.....	7	1	.....
Henry A. Rice .....	1857	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
William W. Page .....	1858-73	.....	.....	6	10	5	.....
Shelton Barry .....	1858-75	.....	.....	.....	18	2	.....
Henry J. Gardner .....	1858	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Charles Ellery Stedman .....	1858-89	2	.....	.....	16	7	1
John P. Townsend .....	1859-74	.....	.....	.....	16	2	.....
Daniel Sharp .....	1859-84	2	.....	.....	26	8	3
John Phillips .....	1861	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Daniel B. Stedman, Jr. ....	1862-86	5	1	13	4	13	7
Samuel Gilbert, Jr. ....	1862-67	.....	.....	.....	6	2	.....
Moses Branche .....	1862-63	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Edmund P. Tileston .....	1863-71	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	.....
D. C. Hood .....	1865	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
James Sawyer .....	1865-67	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Henry A. Clapp .....	1867-71	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
William T. Hunt .....	1870-82	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....
Andrew J. Smallage .....	1870-86	3	.....	.....	12	.....	9

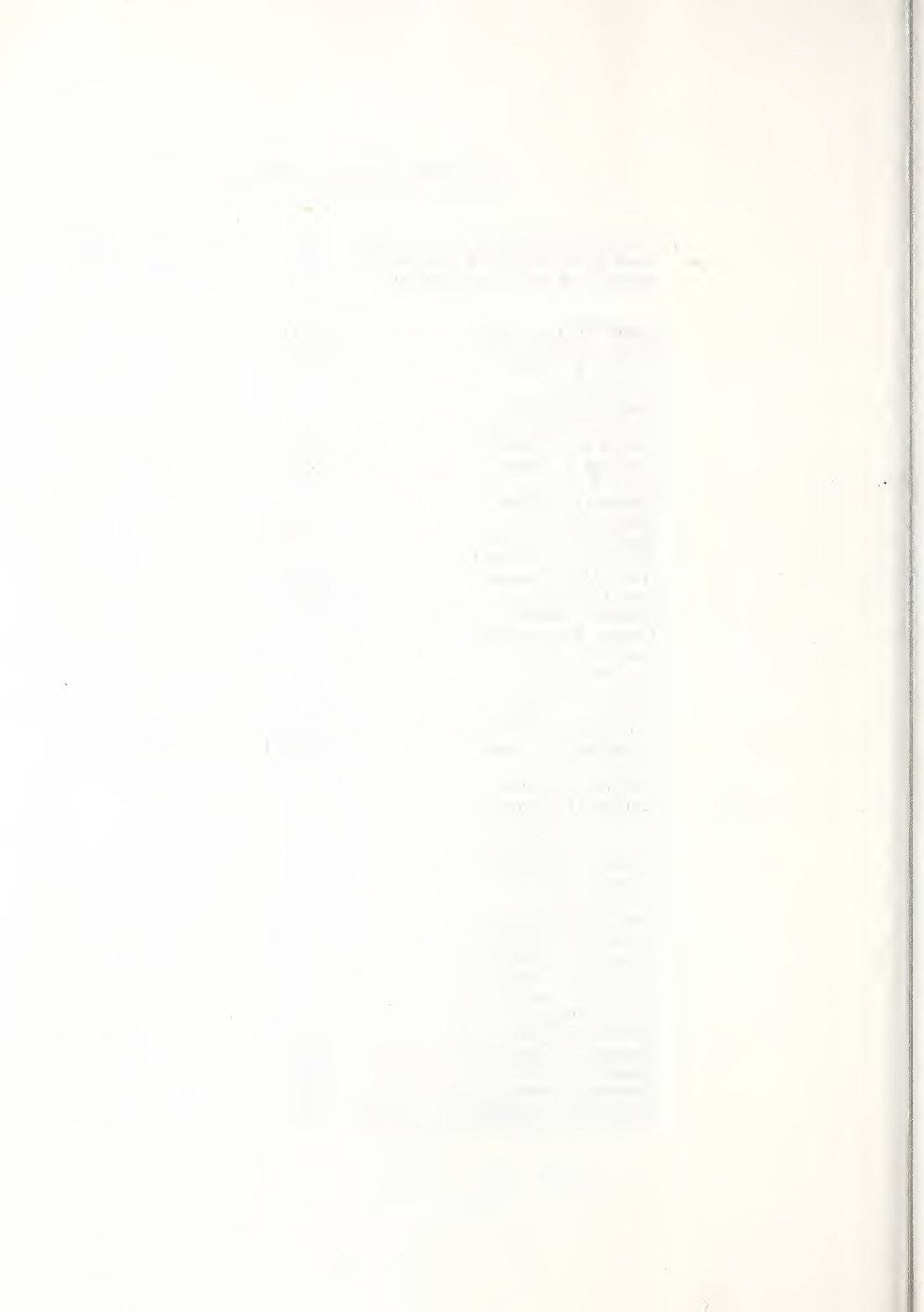


*St. Mary's Parish, Dorchester*

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The following gentlemen have served the Parish in the offices named in the several columns, for the number of years indicated.

	Between the years.	Clerk.	Senior Warden.	Junior Warden.	Vestryman.	Delegate to Diocesan Convention.	Treasurer.
Joseph H. Beale, Sr. ....	1873-81	...	...	...	9	...	...
Albert A. Chittenden ....	1874-97	...	...	5	8	...	5
William F. Jones.....	1875-80	3	...	...	3	1	1
George Noyes.....	1876-83	1	...	...	6	...	1
Samuel R. Phillips.....	1876-79	1	...	...	3	2	1
Daniel L. Weymouth .....	1877	...	...	...	1	...	...
George W. Harding .....	1878	...	...	...	1	...	...
Gustavus A. Jasper .....	1880-83	...	...	...	4	...	...
James A. Tyng.....	1880	1	...	...	...	...	...
George H. L. Sharp .....	1881-91	3	...	...	11	...	...
William B. Bird.....	1881-93	...	...	...	12	...	...
Benjamin S. Eastwood.....	1882-84	...	...	...	3	...	...
William A. Blanchard .....	1883-87	4	...	...	5	...	...
Henry W. Edwards.....	1884-97	...	...	...	13	1	6
John H. Buford.....	1885-88	...	...	...	4	...	...
Lucius P. Leonard.....	1885-86	...	...	1	1	...	...
John A. Estabrooks .....	1886-87	...	...	...	2	...	...
Joseph H. Beale, Jr.....	1887-94	3	...	...	5	6	5
G. Herbert Ide.....	1887	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stephen H. Tyng.....	1887	...	...	...	1	1	...
Charles D. Lamson .....	1887-88	...	...	...	2	1	...
Arthur S. Hanson.....	1888-97	...	...	...	8	...	...
Frederick H. Warner .....	1888-97	...	...	3	5	...	...
George P. Bates.....	1888-89	...	...	...	2	...	...
Charles W. Wilkins.....	1888	...	...	...	1	...	...
William H. Turner .....	1889-97	...	4	...	5	7	...
James S. Burbank.....	1889-90	...	...	...	2	1	...
George G. Bradford .....	1890-97	7	...	...	3	...	...
Henry G. Allbright.....	1890-91	...	...	...	2	...	...
George A. Willis.....	1890-91	...	...	...	2	...	...
Isaac Jackson.....	1891-92	...	...	...	2	...	...
Charles A. Ruggles.....	1891-97	...	...	...	2	...	1
James M. Wheaton.....	1892-95	...	...	1	3	...	...
Robert R. Kimball .....	1893-97	...	...	...	5	3	...
William U. Amsden .....	1893-97	...	...	...	5	...	...
Edward E. Cary.....	1893-95	...	...	...	3	...	...
B. T. Stevenson.....	1893-94	...	...	...	2	...	...
John A. McKim.....	1894-96	...	...	...	3	...	...
Charles H. Baldwin .....	1894-97	...	...	...	4	...	...
James D. McLellan .....	1897	...	...	...	1	...	...
Howard Wheeler.....	1897	...	...	...	1	...	...
G. Herbert Chittenden.....	1897	1	...	...	...	...	...



During the Rectorship of	Baptisms.	Confirmations.	Marriages.	Burials.	Contributions for Religious Purposes.
The Rev. G. W. Porter, Sept. 1, 1847 to Nov. 1, 1852	29	17	13	25	\$428 00*
The Rev. E. L. Drown, July 1, 1853 to Sept. 1, 1860	77	50	20	51	6,066 00
The Rev. W. H. Mills, Sept. 1, 1860 to April 5, 1874	281	213	40	151	51,862 00†
The Rev. W. W. Silvester, June 9, 1874 to March 3, 1878	96	46	13	38	23,010 00
The Rev. L. W. Saltonstall, May 12, 1878 to Nov. 25, 1891	175	96	41	116	98,648 00
The Rev. W. E. C. Smith, Feb. 14, 1892 to Jan. 1, 1898	111	144	64	119	56,624 00
Totals	769	566	191	500	\$236,638 00

\* During the Rectorship of the Rev. Dr. Porter, \$6,500 was contributed for building the church, the organ, etc., which were not in the tabulated reports to the Convention.

† Prior to 1875 the reports to the Convention did not include the amounts contributed in Pew Rents and Taxes; after that date all Parish expenses are included.

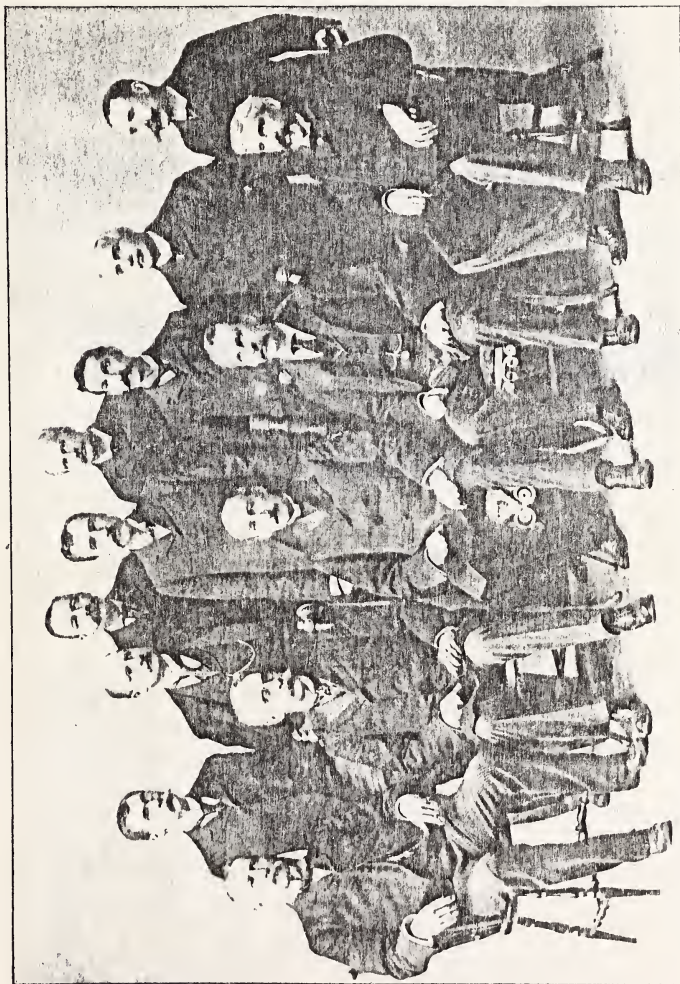
The above reports include in some years money used to pay debts for money borrowed, which amounts have been reported in previous years as "contributed for building the church." After deducting all such duplications, including the present debt, there will still remain not less than \$200,000 of actual contributions for religious purposes.

These reports to the Diocesan Convention include, in part only, the gifts in work and money of the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Societies and the different Guilds of the Parish which in the aggregate make a large sum.

They do not include the gifts of St. Mary's people for Charitable and Public Objects outside of the Parish, to which they have always contributed their full share; during the War St. Mary's Parishioners were behind none in their patriotic gifts.







**The Wardens and Vestry, St. Mary's, 1897.**

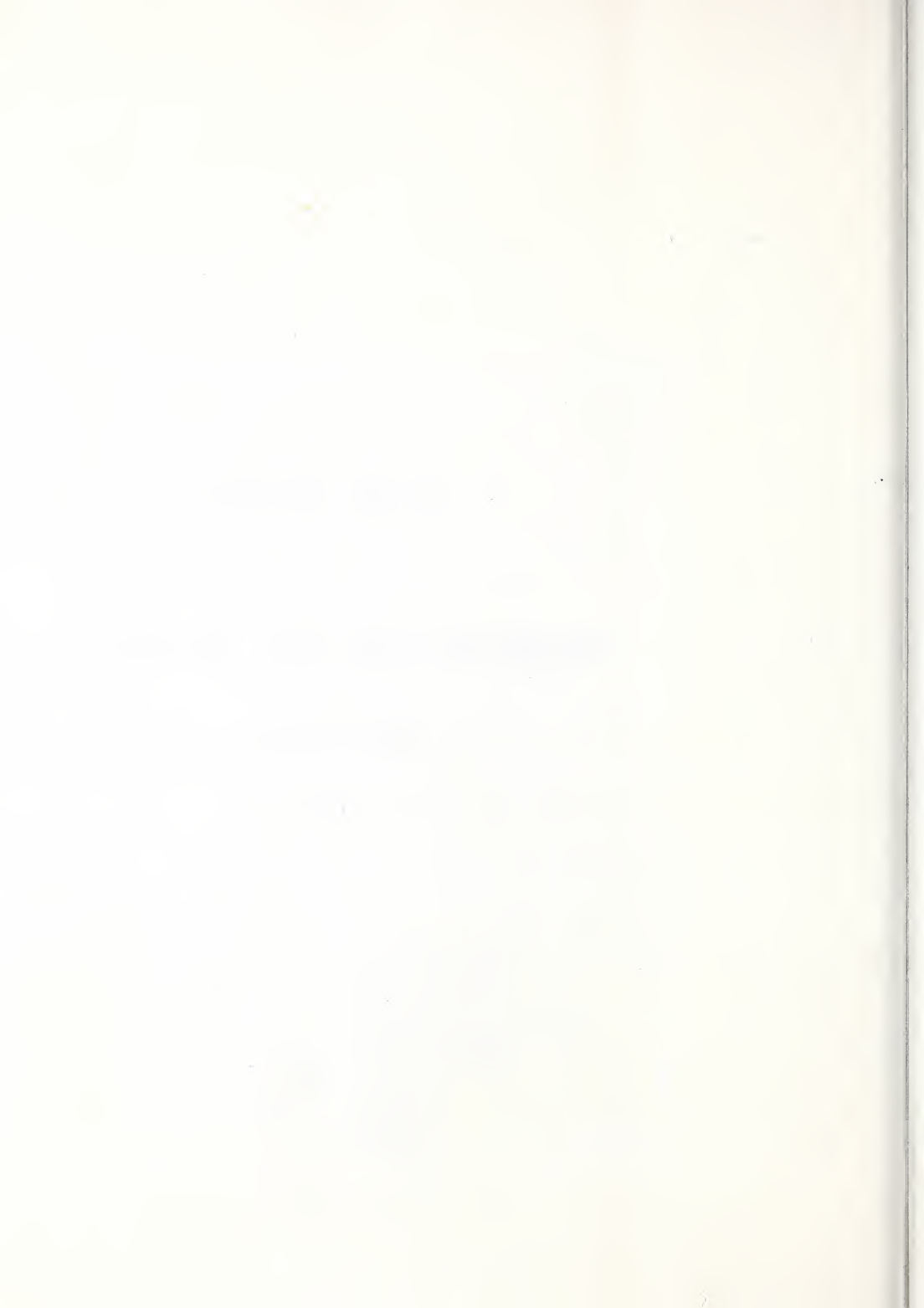
Henry W. Edwards.	William H. Turner.	Rev. Walter E. C. Smith.	Fred'k H. Warner.	Albert A. Chittenden.
William U. Amsden.	Chas. H. Baldwin.	J. D. McLellan.	G. H. Chittenden, <i>Clerk.</i>	Charles A. Ruggles.
	Robert R. Kimball.		Arthur S. Hanson.	Howard Whetler.





YEAR BOOK  
OF THE  
PARISH OF ST. MARY'S,  
DORCHESTER.

1897.



# YEAR BOOK

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## Calendar, 1897-8.

- Nov. 28. First Sunday in Advent.  
30. St. Andrew's Day.  
Dec. 19. Fourth Sunday in Advent. Visitation of the Bishop  
at Morning Service.  
25. Christmas Day.  
Jan. 6. The Epiphany.  
Feb. 23. Ash Wednesday.  
April 10. Easter Day.  
May 19. Ascension Day.  
29. Whit-Sunday.  
June 5. Trinity Sunday.  
Aug. 6. The Transfiguration.  
Nov. 1. All Saints' Day.



## Parish Dates.

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First Service . . . . .	Sept. 28, 1847
Consecration of Old St. Mary's . . . . .	Sept. 20, 1849
The Rev. G. W. PORTER, first Rector . . . . .	1847-1852
The Rev. E. L. DROWN, second Rector . . . . .	1853-1860
The Rev. WM. H. MILLS, third Rector . . . . .	1860-1874
The Rev. W. W. SILVESTER, fourth Rector . . . . .	1874-1878
The Rev. L. W. SALTONSTALL, fifth Rector . . . . .	1878-1891
St. Mary's Church burned . . . . .	June 14, 1887
Corner-stone of the present St. Mary's laid . . . . .	1888
First Service in the New St. Mary's . . . . .	1889
The Rev. WALTER E. C. SMITH, sixth Rector . . . . .	1892
Church enlarged . . . . .	1892
Commemoration of Fiftieth Anniversary . . . . .	Oct. 10, 1897



## Organization of the Parish.

### Rector.

The Rev. WALTER E. C. SMITH.

### Wardens.

WILLIAM H. TURNER,

FREDERICK H. WARNER.

### Clerk.

G. H. CHITTENDEN, 110 Cushing Avenue.

### Treasurer.

CHARLES A. RUGGLES, The Denmark.

### Vestrymen.

WM. U. AMSDEN,

ARTHUR S. HANSON,

CHARLES H. BALDWIN,

ROBERT R. KIMBALL,

GEORGE G. BRADFORD,

J. D. MCLELLAN,

ALBERT A. CHITTENDEN,

CHARLES A. RUGGLES,

HENRY W. EDWARDS,

HOWARD WHEELER.

### Delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

MARTIN L. BRADFORD,

ROBERT R. KIMBALL,

WILLIAM H. TURNER.

### Delegates to the Boston Archdeaconry.

CHARLES H. BALDWIN,

CHARLES A. RUGGLES,

WILLIAM H. TURNER.

### Committee on Music.

CHARLES H. BALDWIN,

ROBERT R. KIMBALL,

HOWARD WHEELER.

### Committee on Church and Grounds.

FRED. H. WARNER,

ALBERT A. CHITTENDEN,

ARTHUR S. HANSON,

J. D. MCLELLAN.

### Committee on Memorials.

The RECTOR and WARDENS.

### Committee on Mount Hope Cemetery Lot.

WILLIAM H. TURNER,

WILLIAM U. AMSDEN.

### Hospitality Committee.

F. H. WARNER, GEO. G. BRADFORD, and the St. Andrew's Brotherhood.

### Committee on Renting Pews.

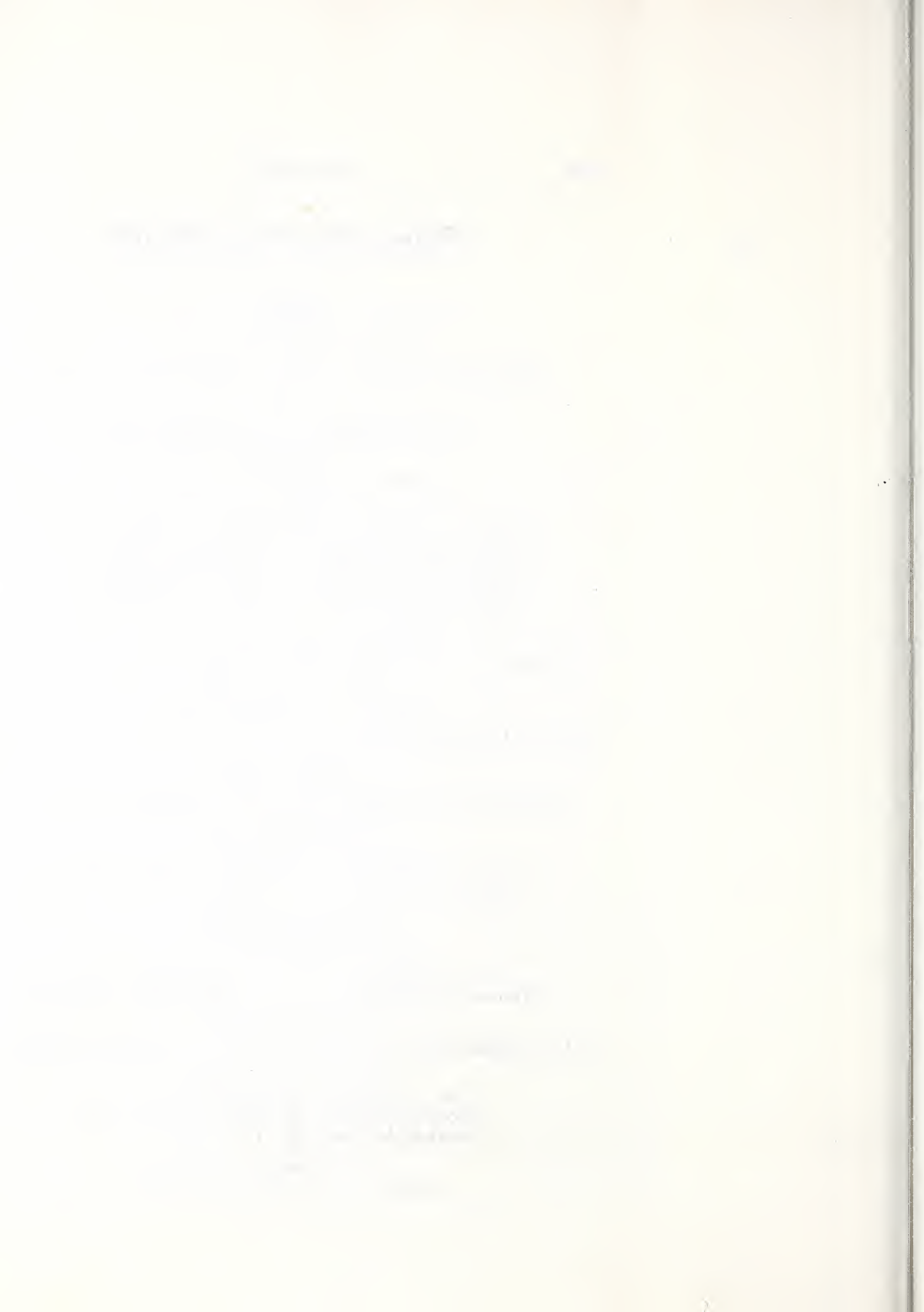
F. H. WARNER, 12 Summer St., Boston.

GEO. G. BRADFORD, 38 Sumner St., Dorchester.

CHARLES A. RUGGLES, The Denmark.

### Sexton.

MARK COOK, 1167 Dorchester Ave.





## **Membership in the Parish.**

### *Article II of the Constitution.*

Every regular attendant at public worship in the Parish, at the age of twenty-one years, who has paid a pew-rent, or a stated sum for the support of public worship, for the six months preceding, shall, upon being recommended by the Vestry, accepted by vote of the Parish, and signing the Constitution and By-Laws, become a member of the Parish and entitled to vote in all its affairs.

A written resignation, sent to the Clerk, shall terminate membership. Any member who, for the space of six consecutive months, shall have refrained from regular attendance at public worship or from payment of a pew-rent, may, upon recommendation of the Vestry, after due notice and opportunity to be heard thereon, by vote of the Parish, be dropped from the list of members.

Attention is called to the following Canon of the Episcopal Church: "A communicant removing from one Parish to another shall procure from the Rector (If any) of the Parish of his last residence, or, if there be no Rector, from one of the Wardens, a certificate stating that he or she is a communicant in good standing, and the Rector of the Parish or Congregation to which he or she removes shall not be required to receive him or her as a communicant until such letter be procured." In order that the Minister of this Church may be able to make a true return to the Bishop of the Diocese and the General Conventions of the actual number of communicants of St. Mary's Church, those who have recently come to us from some other Church or Parish, who can, as well as not, obtain letters, are kindly asked to do so.



## Parochial Report,

*As published in the Convention Journal for January, 1897.*

Baptisms: Infants, 11; adults, 3; total, 14; total number of baptized persons (infant and adult) in the Parish, about 600. Confirmations, 23. Marriages, 7. Burials, 12. Communicants: Admitted, 23; received, 28; died, 5; removed, about 20; present number, 276. Sunday School: Officers and teachers, 18; pupils, 155; total, 173. Sitzings in Church, 500. Services are supported by pew-rents and by weekly envelope system.

FINANCIAL REPORT.—Expenditures, Parochial: Current expenses, including salaries, \$6,641.44; payment of debts, \$97.16; support of Sunday School, \$127.38; Communion Alms, \$271.20; total, \$7,137.18. Diocesan: Episcopal Fund, \$42; Convention Fund, \$69; Diocesan Missions, \$100; City Missions, \$75 and one box; total, \$286. General: Missions, Foreign, \$83.35; Domestic, \$47.03; boxes sent 2, value \$120; total, \$250.38. Total for all objects, \$7,673.56.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE PARISH.—Parish property: Total value of all Parish property, \$50,000; total indebtedness on all Parish property, \$13,000. The title to the Parish property is vested in the Corporation of St. Mary's Church.

### TABULAR STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JAN. 1, 1897.

Baptisms	14
Confirmations	23
Marriages	7
Burials	12
Communicants	276
Sunday School Officers and Teachers	18
Sunday School Scholars	155



## Parish Finances.

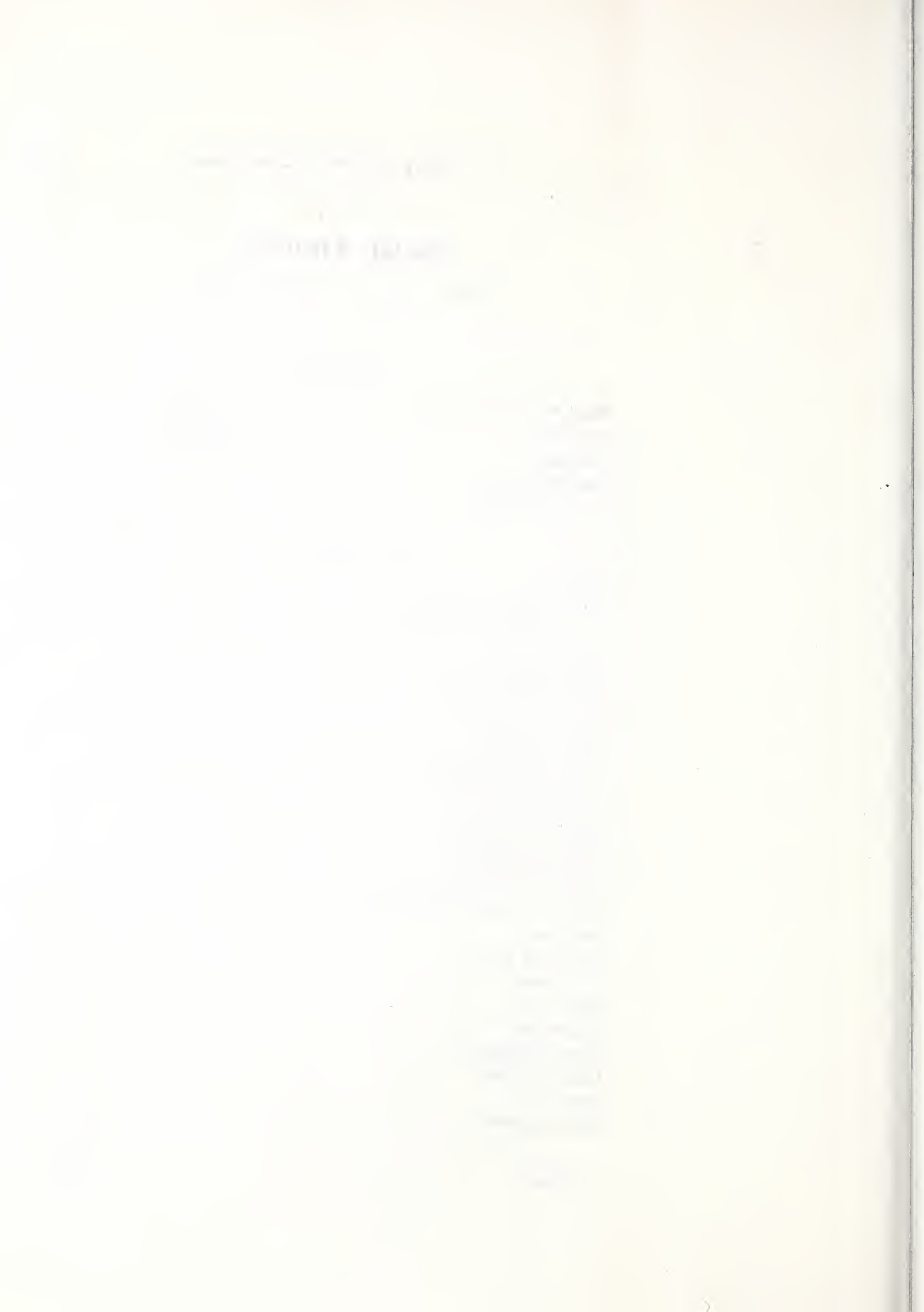
APRIL 1, 1896, TO MARCH 31, 1897.

### RECEIPTS.

Balance, April 1, 1896	. . . . .	\$1 30
Pew Rents . . . . .		3,585 69
Offerings . . . . .		1,461 75
Music Pledges . . . . .		492 50
Envelope Pledges . . . . .		1,733 02
		<hr/> \$7,274 26

### EXPENDITURES.

Rector . . . . .		\$2,300 00
Music, 1895-6, \$188.31	}	2,179 06
“ 1896-7, 1,990.75		
Sexton . . . . .		390 00
Interest on Mortgage . . . . .		650 00
Bishop's Fund . . . . .		42 00
Diocesan Expenses . . . . .		69 00
Sinking Fund . . . . .		520 16
Church and Grounds . . . . .		145 59
Coal and Gas . . . . .		158 70
Domestic Missions . . . . .		100 00
Diocesan Missions . . . . .		121 23
Foreign Missions . . . . .		76 13
Episcopal City Missions . . . . .		69 23
Printing, Postage and Stationery . . . . .		64 33
Insurance . . . . .		80 00
Supplying Pulpit . . . . .		75 00
Year Book . . . . .		49 00
Altar Guild . . . . .		40 00
Water Tax . . . . .		12 00
Church Register . . . . .		12 00
Church Notices . . . . .		26 05
Jews . . . . .		8 00
Miscellaneous . . . . .		27 57
		<hr/> \$7,215 05
Balance . . . . .		\$59 21



## ASSETS.

Cash on hand, March 31, 1897 . . . .	\$59 21
Pew rents due and unpaid . . . .	127 54
Music Pledges . . . . .	45 00
Other Pledges . . . . .	78 00
	<u>          </u>
	\$309 75

## LIABILITIES.

Music Bills . . . . .	\$152 31
Coal Bills . . . . .	146 00
	<u>          </u>
	\$298 31
Surplus . . . . .	<u>          </u>
	\$11 44

CHARLES A. RUGGLES, *Treasurer.*

## List of Collections

TO BE TAKEN IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 1897-98.

DATE.	OBJECT.
Communion Sundays, . . . .	For the Parish Poor and Parish Purse.
December 19, . . . . .	Diocesan Missions.
December 25, Christmas Day,	For the Sunday School.
January 16, . . . . .	Foreign Missions.
February 20, . . . . .	Domestic Missions.
March 20, . . . . .	Episcopal City Missions.
April 8, Good Friday, . . . .	Jewish Missions.
April 10, Easter Day, . . . .	Sinking Fund for the removal of Church Debt.
April 17, . . . . .	Diocesan Missions.
May 15, . . . . .	Domestic Missions.
June 19, . . . . .	Diocesan Missions.
July 17, . . . . .	Foreign Missions.
August 14, . . . . .	Domestic Missions.
September 18, . . . . .	Diocesan Missions.
October 16, . . . . .	Foreign Missions.
November 20, . . . . .	Episcopal City Mission.
Thanksgiving Day, . . . .	Aged and Infirm Clergy.





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## **Worship.**

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Rector

THE REV. WALTER E. C. SMITH,  
Residence, 68 Monadhock St.

Lay Readers

WILLIAM H. KENAH.                      FRANK T. KNOWLES.



## **The Choir.**

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Music Committee

CHARLES H. BALDWIN.                      ROBERT R. KIMBALL.  
HOWARD WHEELER.

Choir Master and Organist

J. EVERETT PEARSON, 8 Victoria St.

Sopranos

Miss SWIFT.	Miss TAGGART.
Miss COOPER.	Miss SMITH.
Miss PIERCE.	Miss TRANER.
Miss MOGER.	Miss GRIMSHAW.

Contraltos

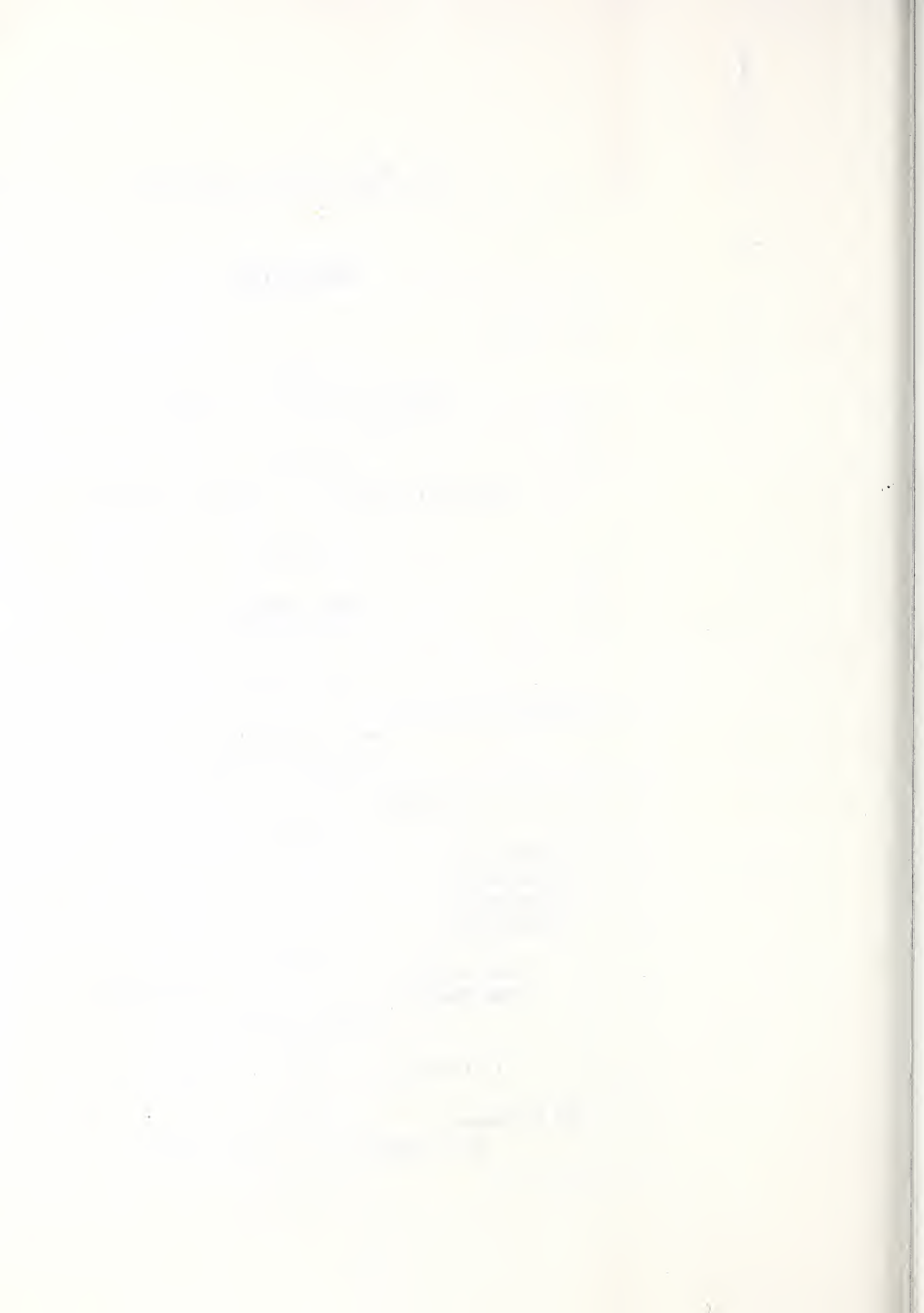
Mrs. AUSTIN.	Miss BAKER.
Miss BABBITT.	Miss BUCHAN.
Miss MCCLURE.	

Tenors

J. H. MAHAN.	W. H. TAYLOR.
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Bassos

W. H. KENAH.	H. L. DRING.
W. U. AMSDEN.	A. SEVERANCE.



## Services.

### Sunday

Morning Service . . . . .	10.45 A. M.
Sunday School . . . . .	9.30 A. M.
Evening Service (seats free) . . . . .	7.30 P. M.

### Holy Communion

First Sunday . . . . .	10.45 A. M.
Every Sunday in Lent . . . . .	9.00 A. M.
Holy Days of the Life of Christ . . . . .	10.30 A. M.
All Saints' Day . . . . .	10.30 A. M.
Maundy Thursday . . . . .	8.00 P. M.

### SPECIAL OFFICES.

#### Baptism.

At times when desired . . . . .	12.00 M.
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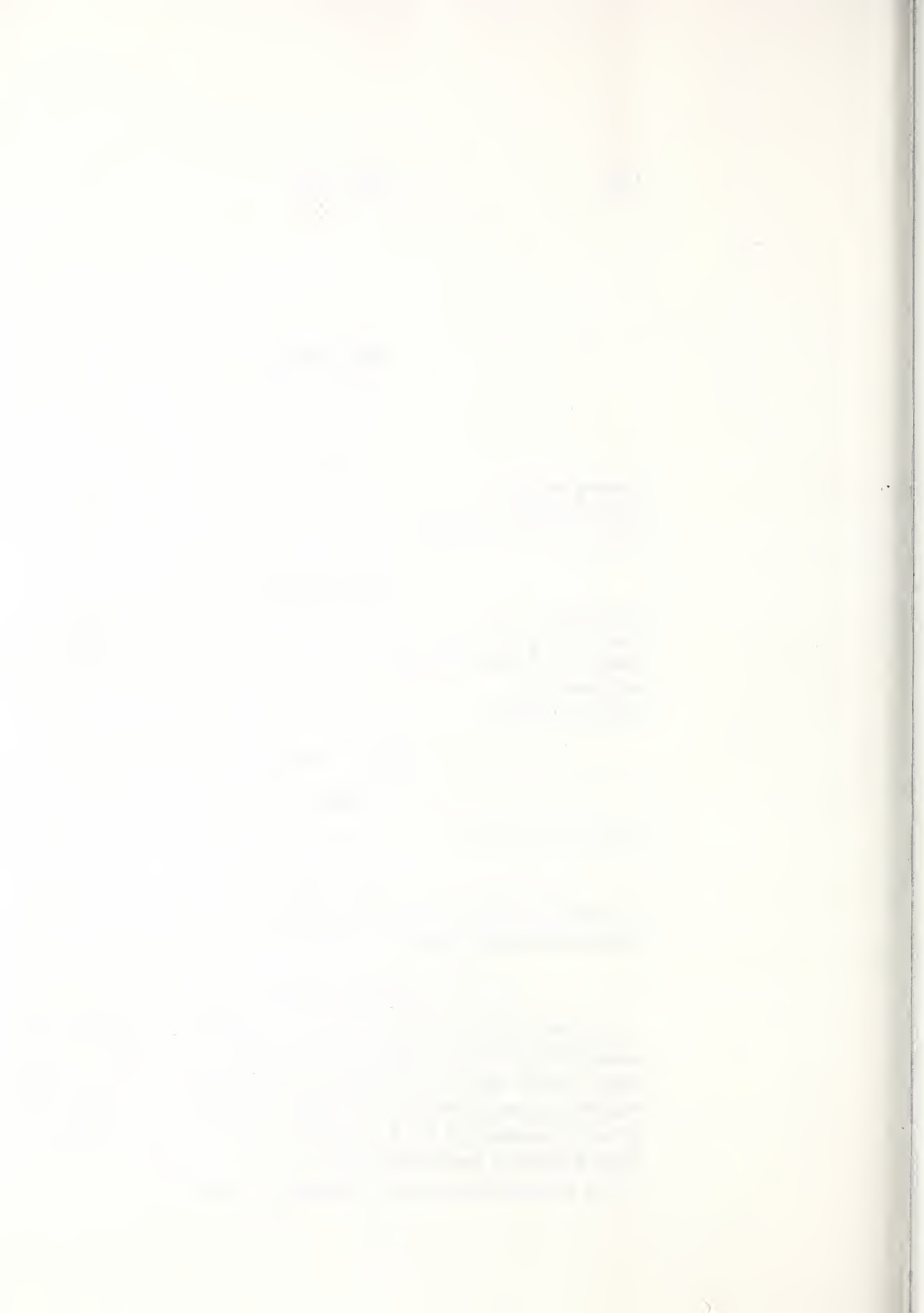
#### Confirmation

The Bishop's visit is on December 19, 1897 . . . . .	10.45 A. M.
Confirmation lectures, Sundays in Advent, in the Church . . . . .	4.00 P. M.

#### Marriages and Burials

It is well, unless necessity compels some other arrangement, that these Services should be held in the Church. The Rector asks (in order that he may be disengaged at the appointed time), that he may have as early notice as possible. For those who are not contributing members of the Parish, there will be charged for the use of the Church, a fee of five dollars.

The Lenten Services are announced by special card.



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Meetings of Parish Societies

The usual times and places of meeting for the different Parish organizations are indicated by the following Calendar :—

Monday evening of Easter week : Easter meeting for the annual election of Parish Officers, and Parish Reception.

Mondays : St. Agnes' Guild, 4 P. M. Parish Rooms.

Tuesdays (first and third), from November to Easter : Woman's Missionary Society, 2 P. M. Parish Rooms.

Tuesdays (first and third) : St. Andrew's Brotherhood, 8 P. M. Parish Rooms.

Second Wednesday of each month : St. Mary's Club for Young Men, 7.30 P. M.

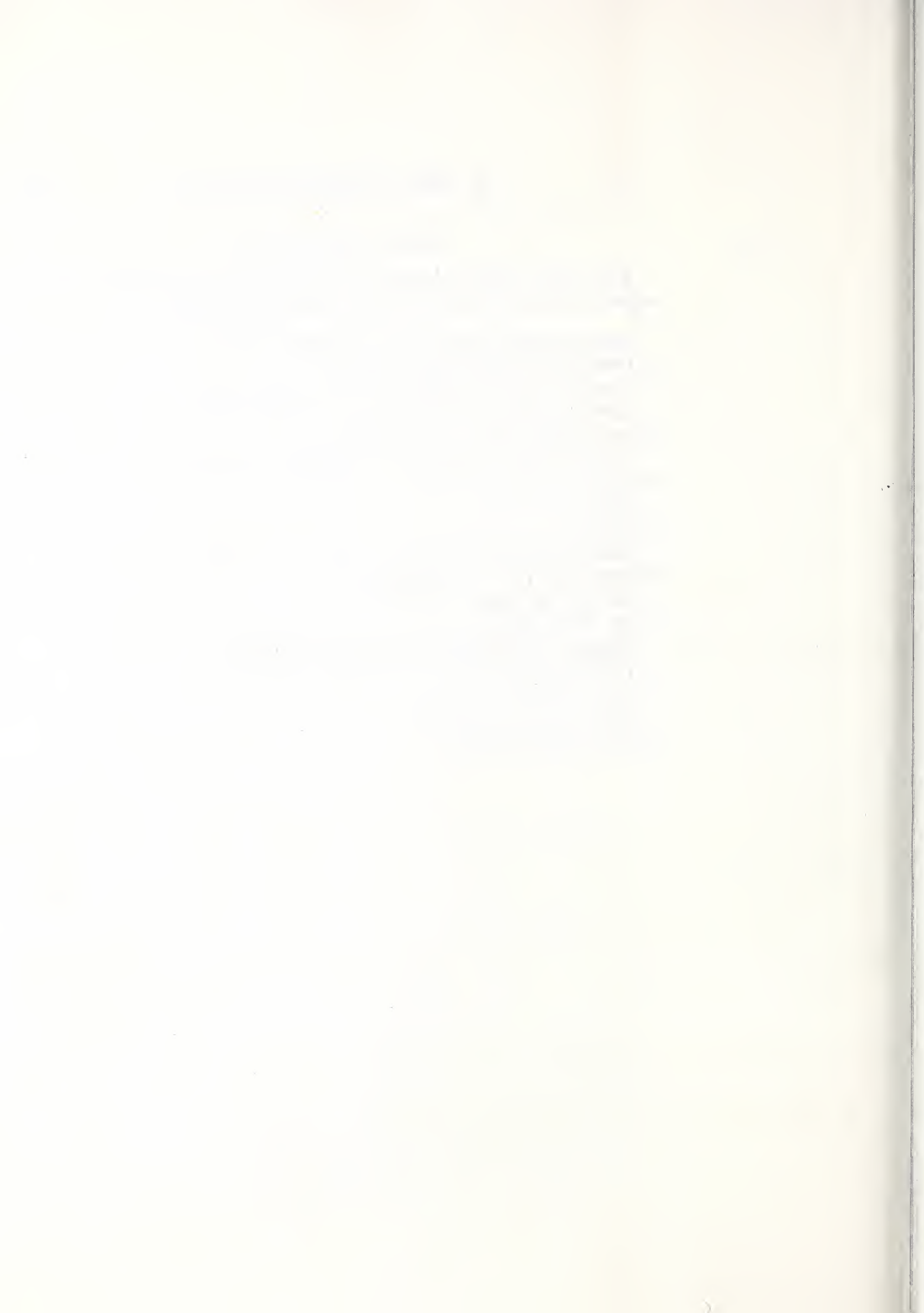
Thursdays (from October to June) : St. Mary's Guild for Young Women, 7.30 P. M. Parish Rooms.

Mothers' Meetings (Miss Barry, *Director*), once a month, by appointment. Parish Rooms.

Fridays : Choir rehearsal, 7.30 P. M. Sunday School Room.

The Parish Aid Society, Friday afternoons during Advent and Lent. At the house of the Rector.

The Rector may be found at his home mornings (except Mondays), and usually Monday evenings.





## Parish Association of St. Mary's Church.

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### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Association was held on All Saints' Day, November 1, at the close of the Communion Service. The Rector presided.

After the election of a Secretary, the Annual Reports of the Woman's Missionary Society, the Dorcas Society, St. Agnes' Guild, St. Mary's Club, St. Mary's Guild, and the Altar Guild were read and accepted.

The Rector gave a brief account of the work of St. Andrew's Brotherhood, the Phillips Brooks Club, and the Choristers' Club. He also spoke of the increasing opportunities for parochial activity and the growing need for a Missionary connected with the Church.

ANNIE OSGOOD BALDWIN,

*Secretary.*



## **The Sunday School.**

### **OFFICERS.**

#### **Superintendent**

**FRANK T. KNOWLES.**

#### **Treasurer and Pianist**

**Miss JOSIE A. JONES.**

#### **Librarians**

**FRED. H. MANN.**

**WILLIAM PARKS.**

#### **Secretary**

**QUINCY TUCKER.**

#### **Teachers**

**The Rev. WALTER E. C. SMITH.**

**Miss M. J. MOORE,**

**Miss CAROLINE BARRY,**

**Miss GERTRUDE O'HARA,**

**Miss ISABELLE MACARTHY,**

**Miss LOTTIE DEWICK,**

**Miss EDITH STEPHENSON,**

**Miss EDITH HALE,**

**Miss JOSIE A. JONES,**

**Miss ALICE JONES,**

**Miss EDITH GRUSH,**

**Miss EMELINE RIPLEY,**

**Miss RACHEL PEASLEY,**

**Mr. ROBERT H. STOKER,**

**Mr. J. A. SEVERANCE.**

For the last year the scholars have been studying the Old Testament, finishing the course at the end of the present quarter, and at Advent it has been decided to grade the different classes, the older scholars taking either the History of the Apostolic Church or a study of the Prayer Book, while the younger classes give their time to the Life of Christ. The year spent on the Old Testament has



been a profitable one, and both scholars and teachers are looking forward with interest to the new work for the year to come.

The Blakeslee Lesson Series, requiring written answers, are still in use and have proved very satisfactory.

The formation of a Bible Class, with our Rector as teacher, has held many of the older pupils, whom we might otherwise have lost.

The attendance of this year has shown a marked improvement over that of last, the average number present being about 130. New names are constantly being added to the Register, and we hope to have the average attendance much larger at the end of the year.

The work of the Primary Department is of great importance. Here the children between four and eight years of age are instructed in the Old Testament stories, events in the Life of Christ, and parts of the Catechism.

Pictures are used in connection with each lesson, and by means of them the children's interest is awakened, and the stories are remembered. There are at present over fifty children in this department, and about fourteen were sent into the larger room this year.

In the larger room some time is given each Sunday to the Catechism, and the scholars are gradually becoming familiar with this important part of the teachings of our Church.

F. T. KNOWLES, *Sup't.*



## Report of Treasurer for Sunday School

From DECEMBER 1, 1896, to DECEMBER 1, 1897.

<i>Dr.</i>		
Balance on hand Dec. 1, 1896	.	\$62 00
Sunday School	.	89 57
Church (Christmas)	.	25 53
Sunday School (Christmas)	.	2 81
Easter Boxes	.	50 52
		<u>\$230 43</u>
<i>Cr.</i>		
Expenses Christmas Festival	.	\$49 30
Expenses Easter Festival	.	37 50
Sunday School Quarterlies	.	14 78
Printing	.	10 50
Library	.	5 00
Easter Flowers	.	12 00
Rev. Mr. Page, Fall River	.	15 00
Easter Offering	.	50 52
Sundry Expenses	.	4 00
		<u>198 60</u>
Balance on hand, Dec. 1, 1897	.	\$31 83

JOSIE A. JONES,  
*Treasurer.*

### PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

SEPTEMBER, 1896, to JUNE, 1897.

<i>Dr.</i>		
Cash on hand	.	\$10 06
Received from Contributions	.	27 88
		<u>\$37 94</u>
<i>Cr.</i>		
Church Debt	.	\$10 00
Floating Hospital	.	10 00
Scholarship for Child in South	.	5 00
Current Expenses	.	10 29
		<u>35 29</u>
Balance	.	\$2 65

MISS BARRY.





## St. Mary's Chancel Committee.

### Members

ALICE S. JONES,	GERTRUDE DONALDSON,
BESSIE CHITTENDEN,	ALICE L. HODGDON,
JOSIE TROWBRIDGE,	ESTHER MANN,
EDYTH LASTER,	ISABELLE MACARTHY,
LUCY H. PARSONS,	L. DAKIN,
EDITH STEPHENSON.	

The arrangement and care of the chancel draperies, the provision of flowers and the care of the Rector's vestments are under the supervision of this committee. Work has been carried on this year very much as in former years.

Two young ladies are appointed each month to arrange the various hangings before each Service and then remove them at the close of the Service.

Flowers have adorned the Communion table on the first Sunday of every month and on many other Sundays during the year. The Chancel Committee are very grateful to Miss Dakin, a member of the Society, who has provided beautiful lilies on four Sundays during the past year.

ALICE S. JONES, *President*.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

*In account with ST. MARY'S CHANCEL COMMITTEE, 1896-97.*

<i>Dr.</i>		
November 1, Cash on hand	.	\$6 27
Received from Treasurer, C. A. Ruggles	.	32 50
		\$38 77
<i>Cr.</i>		
Mrs. Fruen for laundering Communion		
Linen and Surplices	.	\$13 75
Warren Ewell for Flowers	.	18 00
Postage	.	24
Palms for Palm Sunday	.	50
Linen for Communion Cover	.	1 00
		33 49
Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1897	.	\$5 28



**Woman's Missionary Society.**

**OFFICERS, 1897-8.**

---

**President**

Mrs. SHELTON BARRY.

**Vice-Presidents**

Mrs. GEORGE P. BATES.

Mrs. CHARLES J. LEE.

**Secretary**

Mrs. CHARLES H. BALDWIN.

**Treasurer**

Mrs. RICHARDSON.

**Assistant Treasurer**

Mrs. HOWARD KNIGHT.

**Director of the Dorcas Work**

Miss BAILEY.

**Director of the Cutting Committee**

Mrs. A. S. HANSON.

**Delegates to the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions**

Mrs. GEORGE P. BATES.

Mrs. A. S. HANSON.



## Report of the Woman's Missionary Society.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 1, 1897.

During the year 1896-7 the Society has numbered forty-five subscribers. The average attendance at the twelve meetings held during the winter was seventeen; the greatest number present at any meeting was twenty-three, the least number, six. Delegates have represented the Society at the meetings of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, those of the Episcopal City Mission and the Conference of Church Women held at Trinity Chapel in February.

Money sufficient for the work of the Society and of the Dorcas Branch was secured by the yearly subscriptions of members, supplemented by the proceeds of a "Tea" given at the house of Mrs. Sherman.

A Christmas-box, valued at thirty-three dollars, was sent to the Rev. Thos. W. Cain, Galveston, Texas; and in May a box of clothing valued at one hundred and fifteen dollars, consisting of garments made by members of the Society and women employed by the Dorcas Society, was sent to St. Elizabeth's School for Girls at Grass, South Dakota. Lesser gifts were made to St. Michael's Church, Boise City, Idaho; to Diocesan Missions, Miss Wheeler's salary, and the Grove Hall Mission.

On Shrove Tuesday a "Birthday Party" was given in the Parish Rooms. The money thus obtained, together with the generous gift of a member of the Society, made it possible to lay a hardwood floor in the chancel of the church and furnish a carpet for its aisle.

The amount of work accomplished has been as great as in any recent year, and the number of subscribers slightly increased.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNIE OSGOOD BALDWIN,  
*Secretary.*



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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
LIBRARY

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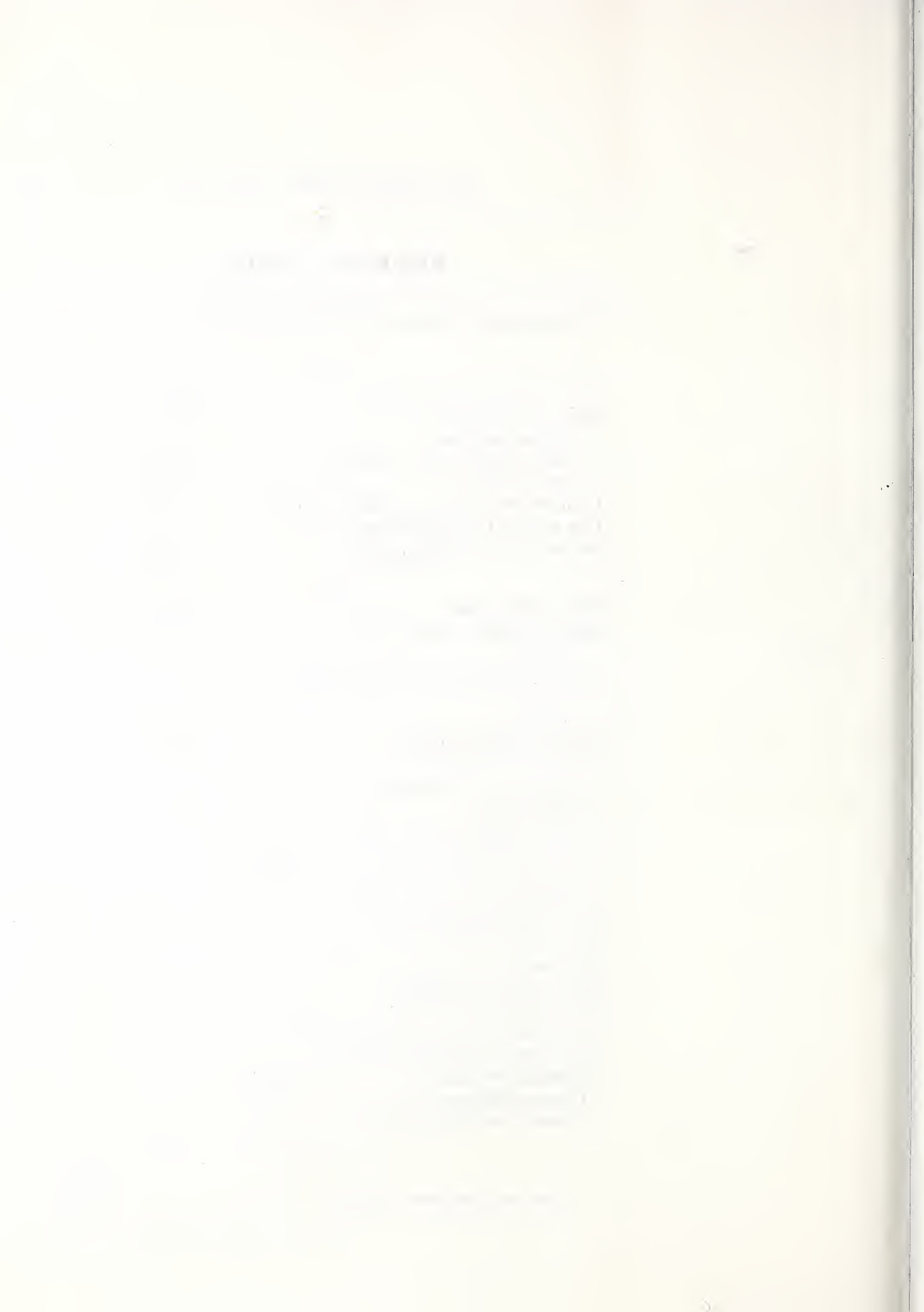


# Treasurer's Report.

ISABEL B. RICHARDSON, TREASURER, *in account with the WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FOR 1896-97.*

<i>Dr.</i>		
Nov. 1, 1896, Cash on hand . . . . .	\$54 55	
Amount received from :		
Membership Fees . . . . .	43 60	
Tea at House of Mrs. Sherman . . . . .	67 25	
Birthday Party . . . . .	114 00	
Cash towards Express on Missionary Box . . . . .	50	
Gift towards repairing Chancel . . . . .	100 00	
Sunday Gifts in small amounts . . . . .	2 14	
		\$381 44
<i>Cr.</i>		
Cash for Materials . . . . .	\$40 96	
Cash towards Expenses of Woman's Auxiliary Lunch . . . . .	5 00	
Cash for Clothing for a Poor Family . . . . .	3 00	
Cash for Postal Cards for notice of Annual Meeting . . . . .	80	
Cash for Dorcas Society . . . . .	61 00	
Cash for Express on two barrels of Clothing sent to St. Elizabeth's School, Grass, South Dakota . . . . .	4 37	
Cash for Dolls for Miss McIntosh . . . . .	1 00	
Cash for Doll sent to Miss G. E. French, Secretary of Woman's Auxiliary, St. Michael's Church, Boise, Idaho . . . . .	1 50	
Cash for repairing Chancel . . . . .	221 00	
Cash towards Expenses of Woman's Conference . . . . .	3 00	
Cash for Kitchen articles . . . . .	29	
Cash for Freight on barrel sent to the Rev. Thomas W. Cain, Galveston, Texas . . . . .	1 01	
Cash through Woman's Auxiliary :		
Domestic Missions . . . . .	\$5 00	
Diocesan Missions . . . . .	10 00	
Toward Miss Wheeler's Salary . . . . .	5 00	
	20 00	
		362 93
Cash on hand Nov. 1, 1897 . . . . .		\$18 51

ISABEL B. RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*



### The Dorcas Society.

The Dorcas Society of St. Mary's Church during the winter months of 1896-97, gave employment to five women, paying them each two dollars a month. The women made one hundred and thirty garments, which were sent to St. Elizabeth's School, in South Dakota.

The women of the Missionary Society feel quite sure that this branch of their work is an important one, as it enables them to give a little aid to worthy women in their time of necessity. It is hoped that the funds may be so increased that help can be given to more women in the future, thus sending a larger supply of clothing to the Missions at the South and West.

EDITH H. BAILEY,  
*Director of the Dorcas Society.*

10000 10000 10000

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**St. Agnes' Guild.**

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President

Miss ELIZABETH BARRY.

Secretary

Miss RACHEL GRAY.

Treasurer

Miss FLORENCE B. AMSDEN.

Teachers

Miss BEALE,  
Mrs. BALDWIN,  
Miss CURRIER,

Mrs. FARQUHAR,  
Miss MESSENGER,  
Miss PARSONS.

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**SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

During the year of 1896-97, St. Agnes' Guild for younger girls, met on Monday afternoons from October to June. The first part of the year was devoted to filling a Christmas box for the Episcopal City Mission, which, with the aid of generous contributions from the people of the Church, was sent to Mr. Allen on December 22. The rest of the time, from Christmas to June, was spent in making mufflers, bunk-curtains, "comfort bags," wristers, etc., for the sailors.

Out of the forty-five girls comprising the Guild, there was an average attendance of about twenty-eight.

At five meetings no sewing was done. These were given up to games and general good times, and at two, short addresses were given, one by Mr. Smith, the Rector, and one by Mr. John Allan of the Sailors' Mission.

The first meeting of this year will be held on Monday, November 1, and it is hoped that during this winter, the membership will be increased and even more work accomplished than was done last year.

FLORENCE B. AMSDEN, *Secretary.*



## St. Mary's Club.

OFFICERS, 1897-98.

---

President

ROBERT H. STORER.

Vice-President

FRED. H. MANN.

Secretary and Treasurer

FRANK W. AMIS.

Executive Committee

The Rev. W. E. C. SMITH.

M. A. PARKER, Jr.

H. G. GRUSH.

Visiting and Membership Committee

The Rev. W. E. C. SMITH.

FRANK T. KNOWLES.

FRANK W. AMIS.

During the year passed, St. Mary's Club has made a gain in membership, so that now it has about thirty active and ten honorary members.

During the season the entertainments have been much varied. Debates have been tried and papers on topics of the day have been read. The meetings of the Club generally consist of an informal business meeting and an hour's social intercourse.

The Club holds meetings regularly on the second Wednesday of every month (except three summer months) in the Parish Rooms.

The object of the Club is to get young men into it, hoping thereby to create an interest in it and the Church, and so lead them to a higher sense of Church work and duty. Having the members of St. Andrew's Brotherhood in the Club greatly assists in this movement. All young men of the Parish who feel interested in the Church and Club, would confer a favor by mentioning the fact to one of the members, who can be found at the rear of the church at each Service.

FRANK W. AMIS, *Secretary and Treasurer.*





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**Yearly Report of St. Mary's Guild.**

FOR 1896-97.

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President

MISS CAROLINE S. BARRY.

Vice-President

MISS ISABELLE MACARTHY.

Secretary and Treasurer

MISS LUCY H. PARSONS.

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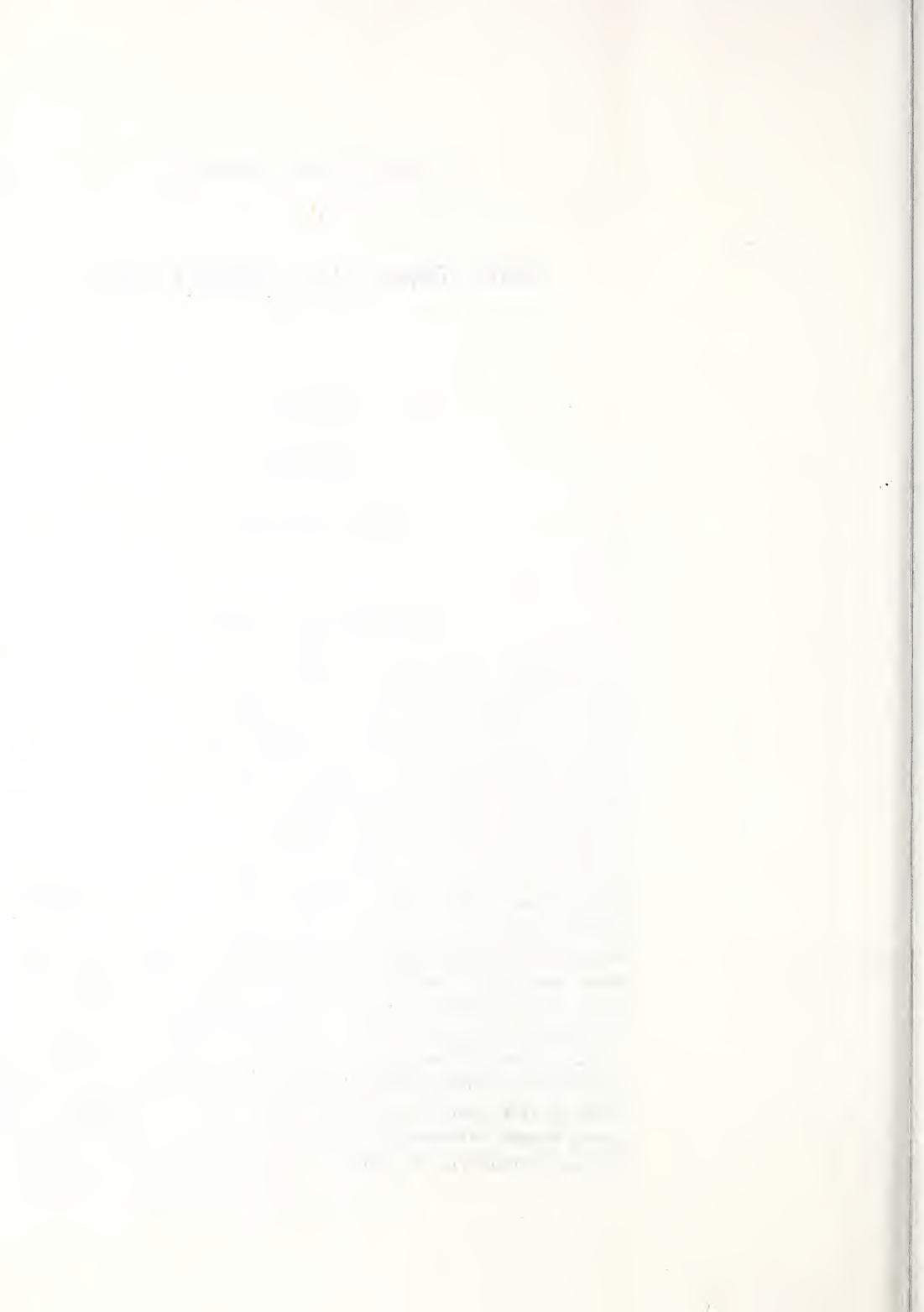
**SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

St. Mary's Guild meets every Thursday evening, at 7.30, in the Parish Rooms of St. Mary's Church. There are sixty members, with an average attendance of thirty-five. Last fall in order to raise money for the winter work, the Guild held a Candy Sale which brought in \$47.95. During the winter the girls made sheets, pillow cases, towels, etc., which were sent to St. Mary's School at the Rosebud Agency in South Dakota.

About once a month through the winter we had social evenings with some sort of an entertainment. The girls invited their friends and they all passed many pleasant evenings. At Christmas the Guild presented Mr. Smith with a white stole. This year the Guild will be even more interesting than last year. Programmes have been printed so that each member will know what is to be done every Thursday evening. On the programmes are literary and musical evenings, and evenings with different artists.

Our regular Missionary work will be done the same as usual. A very good outlook is promised for the Guild this winter, as at each meeting this year, so far, there have been new members. All young women attending St. Mary's Church are cordially invited to become members of the Guild.

LUCY H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*



## St. Mary's Guild.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1896-97.

### *Received.*

Balance from previous year . . . . .	\$10 97	
Dues, Birthday Box, etc. . . . .	8 86	
Proceeds Candy Sale . . . . .	47 95	
Towards paying Entertainment Expenses, etc. . . . .	4 88	
		<u>\$72 66.</u>

### *Paid.*

Pew Rent . . . . .	\$7 50	
Materials for Missionary Work and Sale . . . . .	32 24	
Sundries: Postage, etc. . . . .	2 50	
Easter and Christmas Gifts . . . . .	12 10	
Entertainment Expenses, Prizes, etc. . . . .	12 20	
Express . . . . .	2 31	
		<u>68 85</u>
Balance . . . . .		<u>\$3 81</u>

By means of Mite Boxes, which the Guild members kept about a year, something over \$40 was raised and given towards the sinking fund of the Church at Easter, 1897.

EDYTH LASTER, *Treasurer.*



## **Phillips Brooks Club.**

President

The Rev. W. E. C. SMITH.

Secretary

C. A. RUGGLES.

On December 14th, 1893, by invitation of the Rector, the gentlemen of St. Mary's Church met and organized the Phillips Brooks Club, having for its objects the promotion of acquaintanceship and general advancement of the work required in the Parish. This meeting was informal in its character, as are all the gatherings of the Club. By-laws and rules for the government of the members being considered unnecessary, no fixed dates were made for the meetings, that matter being left to the discretion of the President. Between October and April in each year three or four meetings are held; at these gatherings, each of which is preceded by a dinner, the Club has entertained as its guests many men prominent in the Church and State, who have presented subjects of interest to those engaged in Church work. All gentlemen interested in the Church are included in the membership of the Club, which now numbers eighty-five. The average attendance has been forty, and from the first, these meetings have been a source of profit and enjoyment to those who have participated.



## **Brotherhood of St. Andrew.**

ST. MARY'S CHAPTER, NO. 1412.

Director

WILLIAM H. KENAH.

Secretary and Treasurer

MAYNARD A. PARKER, JR.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

The Chapter has nearly reached the middle of its second year of existence. Its membership has increased from seven to eleven. The members of the Chapter are all doing the work required by





the Rule of Service, while some work in the Sunday School and some serve as ushers in the Church. During the past summer members have had charge of the Bureau of Church Information at the Thorndike, but the work was given up at the end of the season.

The Chapter has carried on successfully for a year (except during the summer months) a Young People's Meeting in the Guild Room. This Service consists of hymns, prayers, and a short address. The meeting is held before the Sunday Evening Service in the Church, from 6.45 to 7.15.

During the past year the Chapter has increased in efficiency as well as in numbers. The members answer readily to all requests made to call on young men who have lately moved into the Parish and notice of any such cases will be gladly received.

The Chapter meetings are held at 8 P. M., in the Guild Room, on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

M. A. PARKER, Jr., *Secretary*.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

<i>Dr.</i>		
Dues, etc. . . . .		\$27 50
<i>Cr.</i>		
St. Andrew's Cross . . . . .	\$3 50	
Quota . . . . .	3 50	
Sundry Expenses . . . . .	3 05	
Self Denial Fund . . . . .	6 00	
	<hr/>	16 05
Cash on hand . . . . .		\$11 45

M. A. PARKER, Jr., *Treasurer*.

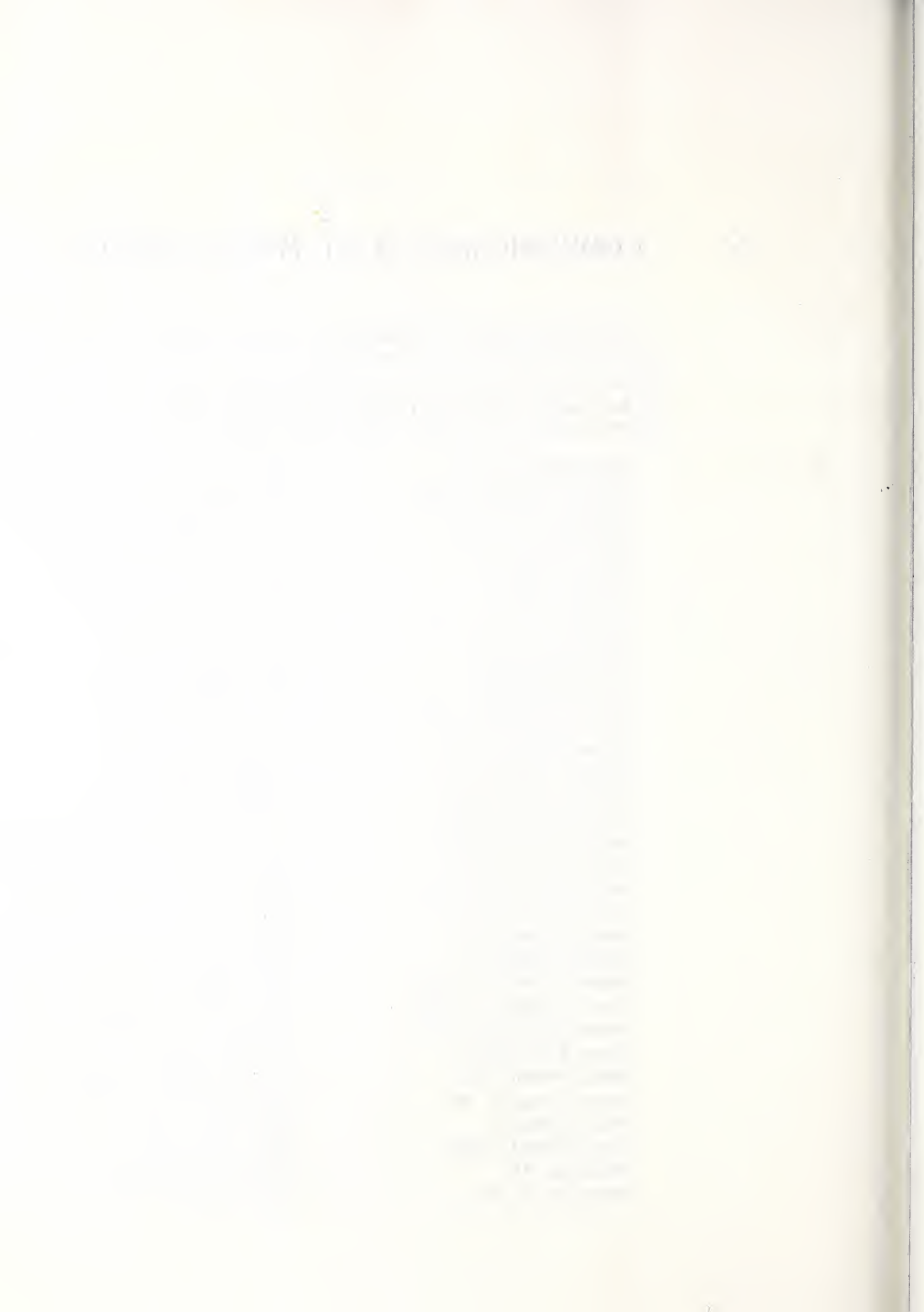


## COMMUNICANTS IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

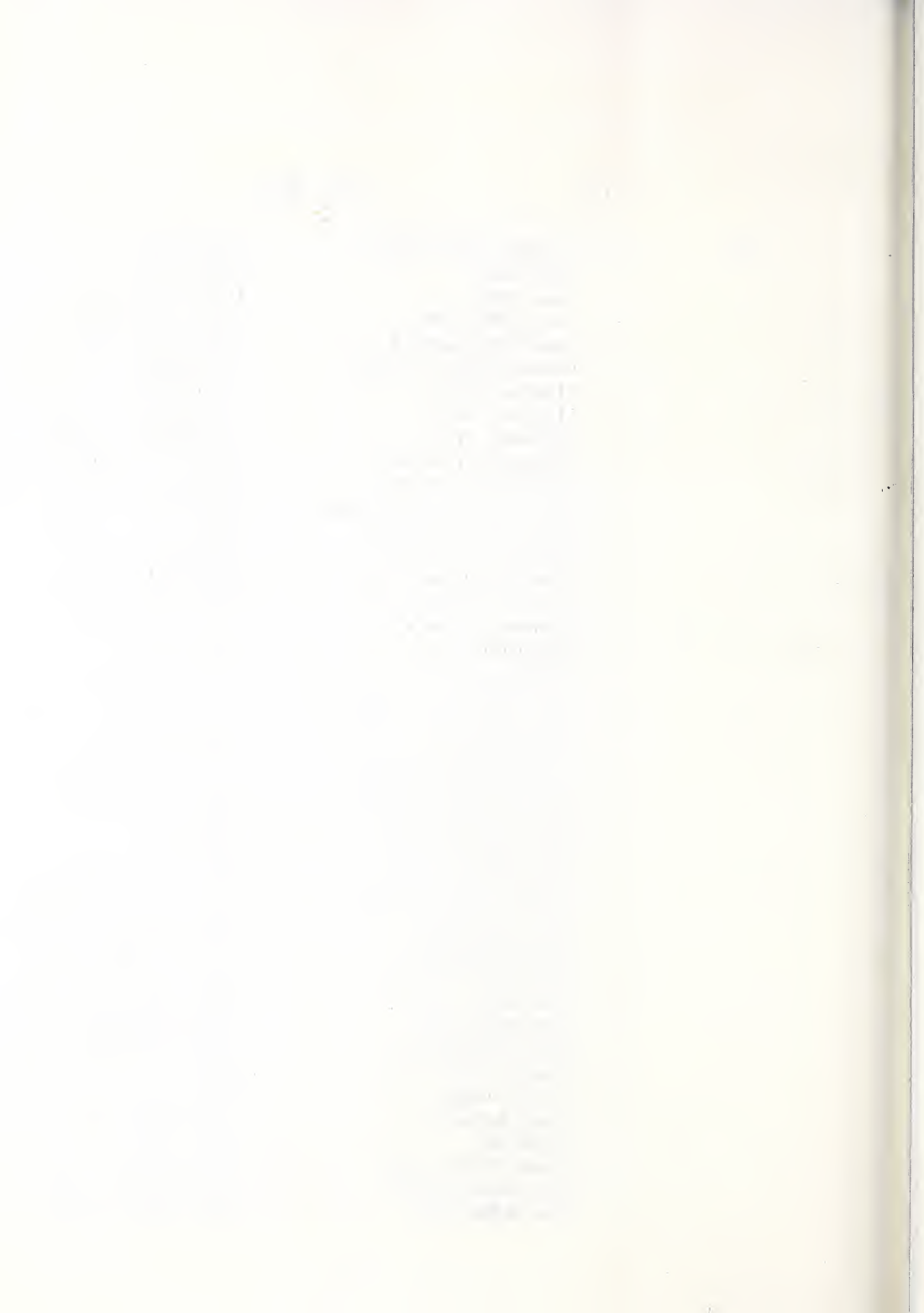
The following list of Communicants is, in all probability, incomplete, and some names may be unintentionally omitted. The Rector of St. Mary's will be very glad if the Communicants in the Church whose names do not appear in the list will kindly send them to him, so that our Parish Record may be made as nearly correct as possible.

Adams, W. H., Mrs.  
Aiken, Gertrude M., Mrs.  
Allbright, Edward F.  
Allbright, H. G., Mrs.  
Amis, Frank W.  
Amsden, Wm. U.  
Amsden, Wm. U., Mrs.  
Babcock, T. J.  
Bacon, Almeron W. B.  
Bacon, Belle, Miss  
Bacon, Emma W., Mrs.  
Bacon, Mary, Mrs.  
Bacon, Mary H., Miss  
Badlam, Stephen  
Badlam, Wm., Mrs.  
Bailey, Alice H., Miss  
Bailey, Edith H., Miss  
Baker, Esther, Miss  
Baker, Florence M., Miss  
Baker, George, Mrs.  
Baker, Louise, Miss  
Baldwin, Charles H.  
Baldwin, Chas. H., Mrs.  
Barry, Caroline S., Miss  
Barry, Elizabeth C., Miss  
Barry, John Francis  
Barry, Shelton, Mrs.  
Bates, George P., Mrs.  
Beale, Arthur M.  
Beale, Edith O., Miss  
Beale, Jos. H.  
Beale, Jos. H., Mrs.

Beale, Jos. H., Jr.  
Beale, Mary M., Miss  
Bennett, Almira C.  
Bennett, Nellie C., Mrs.  
Bennett, W. J., Mrs.  
Bird, Ada L.  
Booker, John J., Mrs.  
Boyd, Amy, Miss  
Boyd, Mary L., Miss  
Boyd, William  
Boyd, William, Mrs.  
Bradbury, Mrs.  
Bradford, A. A., Miss  
Bradford, George G.  
Bradford, Martin L.  
Bradford, Martin L., Mrs.  
Bradford, Mary G., Miss  
Bradford, N. H., Mrs.  
Bradford, Ruth Perkins  
Brewer, Mary C., Miss  
Brunt, Florence  
Brunt, James Robert  
Bryan, John, Mrs.  
Burbank, E. A., Mrs.  
Burbank, Florence, Miss  
Burbank, Ralph N.  
Burgess, Charlotte A., Miss  
Burgess, Mabel I., Miss  
Butler, Sadie, Miss  
Butler, Susan, Miss  
Buzzell, Josephine, Mrs.  
Caduc, Sarah H., Mrs.

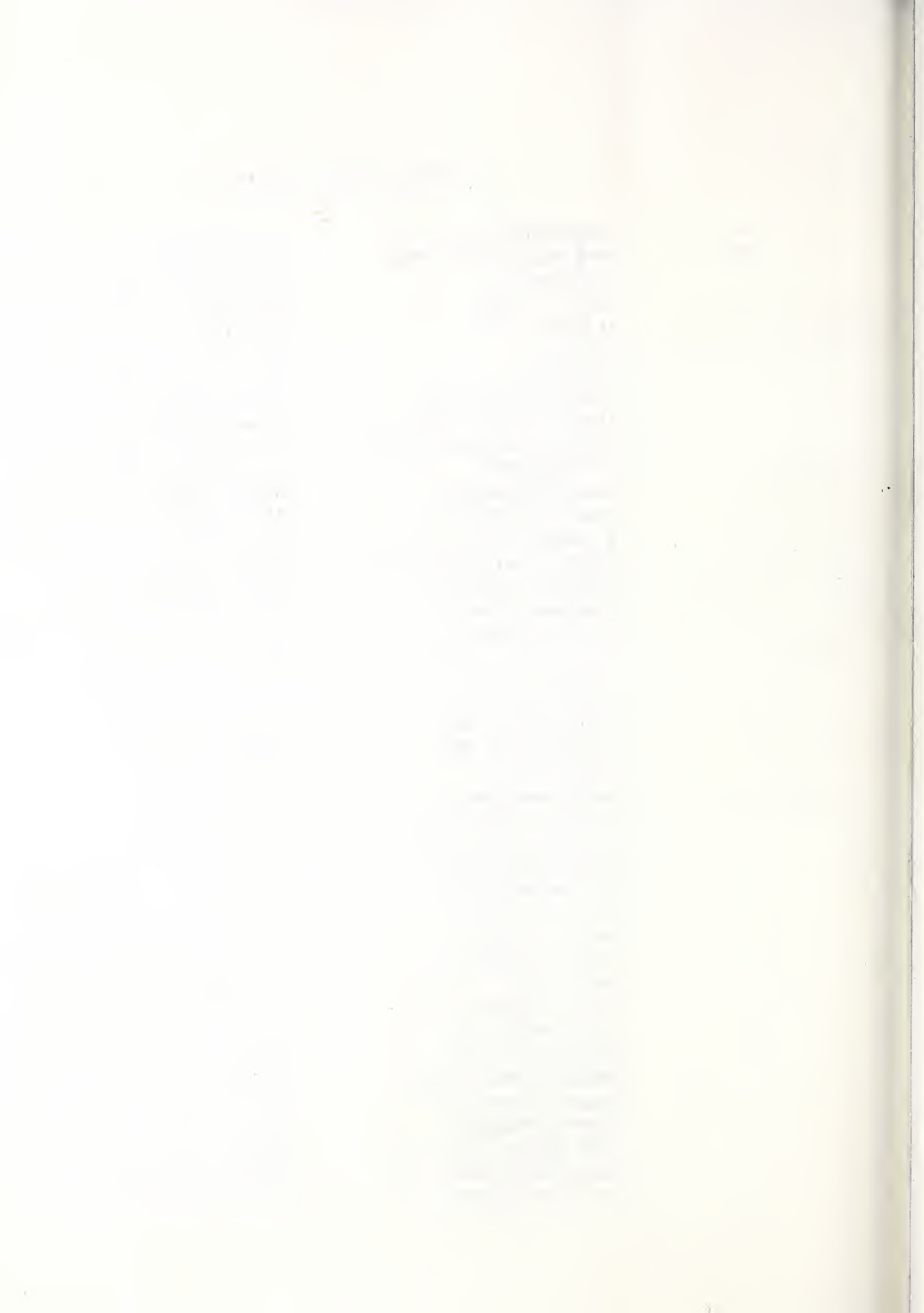


- Carleton, Amy H., Miss  
Carr, James  
Carr, William  
Carr, William, Mrs.  
Cartwright, Charles W.  
Cartwright, Chas. W., Mrs.  
Chapelle, Elisha S.  
Chapman, Robert  
Chittenden, A. A.  
Chittenden, A. A., Mrs.  
Chittenden, A. Percival  
Chittenden, C. Elizabeth, Miss  
Chittenden, David Clapp  
Chittenden, G. Herbert  
Chittenden, Herbert N.  
Chittenden, Julia L., Miss  
Chittenden, Roger C.  
Chittenden, S. N.  
Chittenden, Wentworth N.  
Church, Miss  
Clapp, Constance E., Miss  
Clapp, David C.  
Clapp, Elizabeth A., Miss  
Clapp, Louise H., Miss  
Clapp, Marguerite S., Miss  
Clapp, Mary E., Miss  
Clapp, Mary H., Miss  
Clapp, Mary S., Miss  
Coleman, Matilda J., Miss  
Cook, Isaac, Mrs.  
Cook, Jane Emilia  
Cook, Mabel Josephine  
Cook, Mark  
Cook, Mark, Mrs.  
Cook, Naomi, Miss  
Coombs, Matilde, Mrs.  
Covell, George  
Covell, Leonard A.  
Covell, Mrs.  
Covell, Olive M., Miss  
Cox, Elizabeth, Miss  
Cox, William, Mrs.  
Crane, Mrs.  
Currier, Miss  
Dakin, Kate, Miss  
Dakin, Lizzie, Miss  
Dakin, M. A., Mrs.  
Dewick, Charles F.  
Dewick, Chas. F., Mrs.  
Dewick, Charlotte, Miss  
Dewick, Mary G., Miss  
Dobson, Benjamin  
Dobson, Miss  
Donaldson, G., Miss  
Dukelow, Annie M., Miss  
Dukelow, Charles T.  
Dukelow, Margaret, Mrs.  
Emmons, Geo. W., Mrs.  
Edwards, Henry W.  
Edwards, Henry W., Mrs.  
Edwards, Y. Marcy  
Farrington, Bertha, Miss  
Farrington, Willard S., Mrs.  
Farquhar, Norman  
Farquhar, Norman, Mrs.  
Ferguson, Adeline C., Mrs.  
Fitch, Ralph  
Fitch, R. S., Mrs.  
Fitch, Stanley G. H.  
Flower, Ellen, Miss  
Forrest, Mrs.  
Foster, Alice E., Miss  
Foster, Florence A., Miss  
Foster, Ralph E.  
Fowle, Jennie, Miss  
Gallison, Anastasia, Miss  
Gallison, Etta, Miss  
Glover, Bertha W., Miss  
Glover, Elizabeth L., Miss  
Glover, Emma M., Miss  
Glover, Fred. W.  
Glover, Sarah A., Miss  
Gray, Martha W., Miss  
Grush, Edith J., Miss



Hale, Edith, Miss	Leyland, Miss
Hall, Anna Maria F., Miss	Leyland, Thomas
Hall, Bertram	Lincoln, A. M., Mrs.
Hall, F. F., Mrs.	Macarthy, Isabel, Miss
Hall, Mr.	Macarthy, Lucy Dewey
Hall, Mrs.	Macarthy, T. F., Mrs.
Hall, Miss	Mann, Eliza J., Mrs.
Hamilton, Minnie, Miss	Mann, Esther, Miss
Hanson, Arthur S., Mrs.	Mann, Fred. Howard
Harmond, Catherine M., Miss	Mann, John P., Mrs.
Harnish, Caleb	Mann, Mary E., Miss
Harnish, Caleb, Mrs.	Mason, Katharine, Miss
Harrington, Henry B.	McKay, William Eshorne
Heywood, Chas., Mrs.	McKay, W. E., Mrs.
Hobbess, Lena Cogswell, Miss	McKim, John R.
Hodgdon, Alice, Miss	McKim, John R., Mrs.
Hodgdon, Turner	Messenger, Emily, Miss
Hook, Nellie Sophia	Millar, Minna, Miss
Howard, Chas. H., Mrs.	Moore, Charles F.
Howard, K., Miss	Moore, H. A.
Hollins, H. J., Mrs.	Moore, Mrs.
Hull, Lillian B., Miss	Nichols, Helen Mac, Miss
Hull, Mabel G., Miss	Nichols, Mary, Mrs.
Hull, Samuel	Noble, Mary, Miss
Hull, Samuel, Mrs.	O'Hara, E. Julian
Hull, Violet Maud, Miss	O'Hara, Eliz. J., Mrs.
Huntington, M. C., Miss	O'Hara, G. H., Miss
Johnson, Mabel, Miss	O'Hara, J. F., Miss
Johnson, Martha, Mrs.	O'Hara, Lionel Euband
Jones, Alice, Miss	O'Hara, Maud Charlotte
Jones, G. A., Mrs.	Parker, Maynard A., Jr.
Jones, Josie, Miss	Parks, Ellen T., Mrs.
Kenah, Miss	Parks, Ellen Tree, Miss
Kenah, William	Parks, Ida, Miss
Kenah, William H.	Parsons, Lucy Hill, Miss
Kimball, Robert R.	Pattee, G. B., Mrs.
Kimball, Robt. R., Mrs.	Pearson, J. Everett
Knight, Howard, Mrs.	Peaslee, Miss
Knowles, Frank T.	Peaslee, Rachel, Miss
Ladd, Mary G., Miss	Perkins, Lee S.
Laster, Edyth, Miss	Perkins, Lee S., Mrs.
Lee, Chas. J., Mrs.	Perkins, Mary F., Miss





- Perry, Edward J.  
Perry, Edward J., Mrs.  
Perry, E. J., Miss  
Perry, Edward L.  
Pierce, J. Homer, Mrs.  
Randall, Chas. E., Mrs.  
Read, Arthur H.  
Read, Arthur H., Mrs.  
Richardson, Charles O.  
Richardson, I. B., Mrs.  
Ripley, Edward J.  
Ripley, Eudora Stetson, Mrs.  
Ripley, Eveline, Miss  
Ripley, Isaac Henry  
Robinson, A., Mrs.  
Robinson, Jane E., Mrs.  
Rose, Mary L., Mrs.  
Salter, R. J., Mrs.  
Salter, S. S., Miss  
Severance, John Albert  
Sewall, K., Miss  
Sewall, L. B., Mrs.  
Sheridan, Matthew H.  
Sherman, Jas. F., Mrs.  
Sherman, Richard  
Silsbee, Mrs.  
Smith, Almon S., Mrs.  
Smith, Stephen A.  
Smith, Stephen A., Mrs.  
Smith, Walter E. C.  
Smith, W. E. C., Mrs.  
Speechley, Mrs.  
Sproul, Caroline Merrill, Miss  
Sproul, Lillian Gertrude, Miss  
Stagle, S. Elizabeth, Miss  
Stephenson, Benj. F.  
Stephenson, B. F., Mrs.  
Stephenson, E. A., Miss  
Storer, Amos R., Mrs.  
Storer, Henry W. M.  
Storer, Robert H.  
Storer, Sidney Amos  
Swan, B. F., Mrs.  
Tapley, Carrie, Miss  
Tapley, Leila J., Miss  
Thompson, Grace H.  
Tirrell, Adah, Mrs.  
Tripp, W. V.  
Tripp, Wm. V., Mrs.  
Trowbridge, Adelaide, Miss  
Trowbridge, Josephine, Miss  
Tucker, Quincy  
Turner, William H.  
Twomee, Ada, Miss  
Twomee, Gertrude, Miss  
Twomee, Marietta M., Miss  
Warner, Eleanor S.  
Warner, Fredk. H.  
Warner, Fredk. H., Mrs.  
Warner, William Skinner  
Wetherald, Fred H.  
Wheeler, Howard  
Wheeler, H. Howard, Mrs.  
Whitney, B. M., Miss  
Whitney, Eliz. J., Mrs.  
Whitney, Sara J., Miss  
Wilkins, Charles W.  
Wilkins, Charles W., Mrs.  
Wilkins, C. W., Miss  
Willett, Edward H.  
Willett, Mary, Mrs.  
Willis, George A.  
Willis, George A., Mrs.  
Wilson, Jas. F., Mrs.  
Wilson, Marion, Miss  
Wilson, Winslow A.  
Winsor, Mary Howitt  
Winsor, Mrs.  
Wilson, Mr.  
Wilson, Mrs.  
Wilson, Miss  
Witton, Wm. H.

